

Middle East News

Orthodox Christians demand end to patriarch's real-estate dealings

By P.V. Vivekanand
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Eastern Orthodox Christians in Jordan and Palestine have stepped up their efforts to prevent the Greek head of their church in Jerusalem from disposing off church property in the Holy City and elsewhere in the occupied territories.

The Eastern Orthodox Church commonly called the Greek Orthodox Church, is among the richest of all religious congregations in the Holy Land. It owns dozens of churches, monasteries, schools, hospitals, houses (rented and otherwise), and shops in and around Jerusalem and elsewhere in the occupied territories as well as within the boundaries of Israel as it was created in 1948.

The Greek leadership of the church has been locked in running conflict with the Arab community for many years, with the community accusing the Jerusalem-based patriarchate of disregarding the rights of his congregation and following an autocratic way of dealing with church property and affairs.

The disposal of land in the occupied territories is a highly sensitive issue, given the Israeli drive to acquire Arab land through all means and build settlements there.

The very fact that there are very few Arab clergymen in the patriarchate — four Arabs as opposed to 90 Greeks — is an indicator of the patriarch's approach to church affairs, community leaders say.

During a recent annual general meeting of the Orthodox Society, community leaders voiced their deep concern over the "dictatorial way" Patriarch Diodoros I deals with church property and the affairs of the church. They renewed an appeal to the government to seek an end to such practices, said Raouf Abu Jaber, head of the society.

"All members questioned the right of the patriarch to dispose of land and property and the manner in which he has been doing recently through long-term lease," said Dr. Abu Jaber.

The patriarch has not been consulting the community while handling church property despite the fact that he is obliged to do so, said Dr. Abu Jaber.

Fawad Farraj, a prominent member of the Orthodox Society and former deputy representing Jerusalem in the Jordanian parliament, said that only the government could do anything to dissuade the patriarch from such unilateral way of dealing with church



Fawad Farraj



Raouf Abu Jaber

property.

"A 1958 Jordanian law gives the patriarchate its rights, duties and responsibilities," said Mr. Farraj. "The patriarch uses his rights, but does not respect his duties and responsibilities."

"The only authority that could do something about the state of affairs of the church is the government," Mr. Farraj told the Jordan Times. "But, given the sensitivity of the affair, the government is treading very carefully."

"The clergymen are having a good time at the expense of the community and church property," said Mr. Farraj. "This has to stop."

Official sources said the government had conveyed to the patriarch the concerns and asked him to closely consult the community in his dealings. But in view of the Israeli occupation of the Holy Land, the government finds itself handicapped to go beyond such diplomatic means, the officials said.

Mr. Farraj said the very term "Greek Orthodox Church" is misleading. "If you go back in history, the term was only used to distinguish between the Western and Eastern Roman empires," and there is nothing specially Greek about the church except that it has mostly been headed by a Greek-origin cleric, he said.

"There are some people who would like to remain within the Arab perspective and call it Arab Orthodox Church, while others would like to call it Eastern Orthodox Church since it includes faithful from the Arab World," Mr. Farraj said.

An Orthodox cemetery on Jabal Sahayun overlooking the Silwan neighbourhood of Jerusalem is now open for the burial of Israeli soldiers and Russian immigrants "who came to Israel as Jewish settlers and died as Orthodox Russians."

"By entertaining such ridiculous claims, the non-Arab clergy undermine the Arab existence in Jerusalem and its environs at a most crucial time," Dr. Abu Jaber said.

He said reports say that the patriarch is now engaged in negotiations to sell church land in the Mount of Olives, in the coast of Acre, on Jabal Tabor near Nazareth and in Ramle.

"The discussion of these

between Jerusalem and Bethlehem. "Visiting the site now is a heart-rending experience," Dr. Abu Jaber said. "Instead of the thousands of the Roman-cultivated olive trees, one sees roads being paved, settlements being constructed and depots of construction machinery and material," he said.

In Nazareth, a 422-dunum plot was sought by the Orthodox community there to build a commercial centre and a housing suburb, but the patriarch sold the land to a wheeler-dealer who was known to Jaffa brought legal action against this deal, but seeking justice from an occupying force is like attack a bull with a needle," he said.

Among other examples of the patriarch's unilateral way of dealing with church property cited by Dr. Abu Jaber were:

— The patriarch's move to take control of 5,500 square metres of land used by the Jaffa community for nearly 140 years. "The patriarch claimed ownership, but even an Israeli court turned down his case," said Dr. Abu Jaber.

— A 1991 exchange of a large area of land near a Jewish settlement for a small piece of land elsewhere. Dr. Abu Jaber said the exchange was clearly aimed at giving the settlement "better control of the Jerusalem-Jericho road."

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cases, although saddening to the hearts of the community, has opened the eyes to the importance of keeping up the struggle so as to save the Orthodox legacy in the Holy Land," Dr. Abu Jaber said.

The Orthodox communities in Jordan and Palestine are demanding that:

— All deals related to Orthodox church property be conducted in public and all details be made available to the community; and

— Clear accounting be made of the proceeds from the transactions.

The meeting of the Orthodox Society in Amman, representing about 200,000 Orthodox Christians in Jordan and Palestine, also decided to send an open letter to Patriarch Diodoros I warning him against any more disposal of church land. "The communities remember the solemn promise made by Patriarch Diodoros I during his election campaign in 1981 when he made a promise at the Abadi Orthodox Church that not an inch of church property will be disposed off," Dr. Abu Jaber said. "They decided to remind him of this in public."

The society also sent cables of thanks to His Majesty King Hussein, "who opened the eyes of the country to the importance of preserving and protecting Awqaf property through his generous act against this deal, but seeking justice from an occupying force is like attack a bull with a needle," he said.

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A highway and a settlement on church land belonging originally to the Orthodox Patriarchate of Jerusalem

Key dates and events in life of Arafat

The Associated Press

Aug. 4, 1929: Arafat says he was born in Jerusalem, but independent researchers said his birthplace was either Gaza or Cairo, Egypt. He was born to a prosperous Palestinian merchant who died fighting in the first Arab-Israeli war of 1948.

1951-1957: He was sent to Cairo University to study engineering and soon became involved with the fundamentalist Muslim Brotherhood after enrolling in 1951. He organised the Union of Palestinian Students of which he was president in 1952-56. He got his first military training in Egypt, serving as a reserve second lieutenant and leader of a demolitions squad in the 1956 Suez war between Israel and the Arabs. Arafat's ties to the fundamentalists led to a warrant for his arrest in early 1957 while he was attending a student conference in Prague, Czechoslovakia. He fled to Kuwait, where he got a job as an engineer and opened a private contracting business.

1959: In Kuwait in October, Arafat and like-minded young Palestinians founded



Yasser Arafat

Al Fateh, an underground group whose members believed Palestinians should work independently for the return of their homeland. Moving to Beirut, Arafat began organising within the refugee camps and raising funds to start a guerrilla group.

1964: On New Year's eve, Arafat took command of a squad of five guerrillas and crossed from Lebanon into northern Israel where the guerrillas attacked a water-

pumping station. Thereafter, the Palestinians observed Jan. 1, 1965, as the beginning of the revolutionary movement even though the organisation was a creation of the Arab League in 1964 and the first chairman was a Palestinian lawyer, Ahmed Shukairy.

1967: The Arabs were defeated by Israel in the 1967 Middle East war. It was then that Arafat slipped into the Israeli army for 88 days, longer than any Arab army was able to do four previous wars.

1968: In October, Arafat narrowly escaped death when Israeli warplanes demolished the PLO headquarters in a long-range air raid on Tunis, the Tunisian capital.

1971: Arafat is married to Suha Tawil, the daughter of a Palestinian activist and writer. She studied political science at the Sorbonne in Paris. She was raised a Christian, but converted to Arafat's Muslim faith.

1994: Arafat and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin sign the Cairo accord on May 4, which introduced self-rule in Gaza and Jericho. Arafat made his historic return to Gaza on Friday.

'Rodeo' skills help prepare air forces for any contingency

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Just as World Cup soccer is drawing international crowds to major cities in the United States, the international military air competition known as "Rodeo '94" is a similar magnet in Washington state.

The "star performers" in this June 25-July 1 competition — described as the "Olympics" of air mobility — are the pilots and their crews from 13 nations.

Teams from Australia, Belgium, Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Portugal, Singapore, South Korea, Spain and the United States are at McChord air force base (AFB), near Tacoma, competing in varied events demonstrating such skills as short field landings, combat control tactics, aircraft maintenance, and aerial refuelling.

The Italian team flew two Aeronautica G-222s to the Rodeo, the Spanish competitors brought an Aircat CN-235, Transall C-160s accom-

panied the Germans and French, and the remaining international teams flew C-130 Hercules transports. Participating U.S. aircraft included the C-17 Globemaster, C-141 Starlifter, C-5 Galaxy, KC-104 Stratotanker and KC-10A Extender.

U.S. Air Force Major General Marvin Ervin, this year's Rodeo commander, noting the serious nature of the competition, said the skills being evaluated are the same ones which would be used during a military deployment in either combat or peacetime. "Everything that we do in a contingency, we are practising here," he said.

"These are the (same) aircraft, crews and support people we see," Ervin explained, "when we go somewhere around the world." He said the Rodeo organisers could not accommodate all of the international teams which wanted to participate this year. However, Brazil, Chile, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Malaysia, Mexico, the Netherlands, Thailand, Tun-

isia and Venezuela sent observers, and Ervin said he expects all of them will be able to compete next year.

Exposing other countries to new or different procedures that are practised is part of the purpose of the Rodeo, according to Hewgley.

Four Jordanian observers were scheduled to fly on June 29 with the 37th Airfield Squadron, which is normally based in Frankfurt and has been flying air drops to Bosnia as part of Operation Provide Promise. Royal Jordanian Air Force Captain Jameel Oudah said they would be flying on a C-130 to view firsthand a personnel air drop and to "see if there is anything new" in the squadron's techniques.

Hewgley noted that observers from Mexico were able to learn from American C-130 crews how to conduct tactical airdrops.

"It would certainly have been nice to have some of the former Soviet Union folks represented" this year, the Nether-

lands commander added, predicting their participation in future competitions.

U.S. Air Force General Ronald Fogelman, commander of headquarters at the U.S. Transportation Command and Commander of the Air Mobility Command (AMC) at Scott AFB, pointed to "the spirit of camaraderie" taking place at the Rodeo, including the exchange of flag and aircraft pins as well as squadron patches and T-shirts. A number of U.S. allies were invited to the "world class event," he said, with Singapore and South Korea responding to the invitation by sending air force teams for the first time.

Air Force Captain Troy Hewgley, director of international teams for the competition, said global participation is "the most important" aspect of the Rodeo. He said it builds a rapport and working relationship with possible future military leaders while perfecting skills which may be needed "for future scenarios around the world."

HIJAZ RAILWAY TRAIN

Dep. Amman ... 8:00 a.m. every Monday

Arr. Damascus ... 5:00 p.m. every Monday

Dep. Damascus ... 7:30 a.m. every Sunday

Arr. Amman ... 5:00 p.m. every Sunday

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in fils per kg.

Apple ... 550 350

Apricot ... 500 300

Banana ... 680

Banana (Mukammer) ... 650

Cabbage ... 150 80

Carrot ... 240 160

Cobra ... 120/100

Cherry ... 1200/100

Chocolate ... 140/100

Coriander ... 120/100

Cucumber ... 70/40

Cucumber (small) ... 150/80

Eggplant ... 150/70

Figs ... 500 300

Figs ... 700/500

Garlic ... 600 400

Grape ... 400/250

Groundnut ... 60/20

Marrow (large) ... 140/70

Marrow (small) ... 140/70

Mulukhia ... 100/60

Olive ... 700/400

Onion (dry) ... 400/300

Sweet Melon ... 200/150

Pepper (hot) ... 500/250

Potato ... 560/320

Peaches ... 700/400

Tomato ... 130/60

String beans ... 300/150

Watermelon ... 100/50

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Fayed Dabbas 759155
Dr. Jaber Tariq 704710
Dr.

Home News

Jerash Festival panel rejects programme protests

By Ian Atalla

Special to the Jordan Times
AMMAN — The Higher National Committee for the Jerash Festival, which is chaired by Her Majesty Queen Noor, Saturday strongly rejected politically-based protests of this year's programme.

"The committee realises the major challenges and profound changes which face our region," said a statement released to the press by festival director Akram Masa'weh. "There is no avail in confronting the reality of the path of history by calls for isolation or ideological screams," the statement said alluding to calls by some writers to bar prominent Arab poet Adonis from attending the festival because he attended a meeting with Israeli intellectuals late last year in Granada, Spain.

During a press conference to announce the 13th festival's programme for this summer, Mr. Masa'weh reiterated that the festival "will be open to all Arab artists, regardless of their politics."

The Jerash Festival is an open and democratic arena, he said, where artists are chosen to perform, as was the case with Adonis, "not for his political views, but for his artistic merits."

To agree or disagree with Adonis' views was one thing, Mr. Masa'weh said, but to block him from reciting his poetry based on those views was another matter altogether.

Although the committee

pledged that in the future the festival would "study with meticulous care" the artists chosen as a part of its programme, it stressed that above all, its goal was to see "awakened progress" in the festival's programme "to strengthen all which is human and true in our ... Arab cultural heritage."

The 13th Jerash Festival has been expanded significantly over those held from 1991-1993. The festival will be returned to the full scale it held before the advent of the Gulf War brought on financial difficulties for the festival and the Amman-Jerash road was closed for reconstruction.

Now that the road is open again, Mr. Masa'weh said, "we expect to receive 10,000 to 20,000 visitors daily."

The 13th staging of the festival, which will last from July 20 to August 6, will include five theatrical performance areas in the ancient Roman city and 54 performing groups, some 20 of which are Jordanian.

Among major artists coming to the festival are Syrian singers Ali Sabah Fakhr and George Wassouf, Qatari singer Ali Abdul Satar, and Lebanese musician Mansour Rabbani as director of a musical entitled "The Will Play." Also coming is New Zealand opera singer Malvina Major.

Mr. Masa'weh confirmed that the noted Palestinian poet Mahmoud Darweesh, although until recently scheduled to perform, is now unable to come.

The festival includes a forum known as "Masrah Al Idha" or "Theatre of a Creativity" which will serve as a "window" for the public to see talented Jordanians "who otherwise would not have had the chance to participate in the festival," according to Mr. Masa'weh.



Lebanese vocalist Rageh Alameh performs at the 1993 Jerash Festival (File photo)

The re-expanded festival will also include some 38 Arab and Jordanian poets, a handicrafts area which will feature Omani artisans, a book display and a seminar on Arabic poetry entitled "Foreign Effects on Contemporary Arab Poetry," among other events and performances.

Meanwhile, the Civil Defence Department (CDD) reported that 42 people were killed in various accidents in the country. Of the 533 accidents the CDD responded to, 415 were emergencies and 129 fires. Other sources reported 32 dead.

According to Captain Abdul Ra'uf Ma'ayyah, director of public relations at the CDD, road accidents accounted for most of this week's emergencies.

It was the second worst road accident in the country in a two-month period.

Meanwhile, the Civil Defence Department (CDD) remains in intensive care.

Police release more names of dead in road accident

By Rana Hussaini
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Police on Saturday released the names of two more people who were killed in the June 27 Amman-Irbid road accident.

The deceased, Hussein Mohammad (29) and his wife Samra'a Suleiman (24), both one-year-old son injured in the same accident remains in intensive care.

1994: Arafat is married to Tunis to Suha Arafat, the daughter of a Palestinian activist and writer. She studied political science at the Sorbonne in Paris. She was raised a Christian, but converted to Arafat's Muslim faith.

1994: Arafat and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin sign the Cairo peace accord on May 4, which marks the end of Israel's self-rule in Gaza and Jericho. Arafat made his historic return to Gaza on Friday.

were identified by relatives, the report said.

The report also released the names of four other victims who were transferred to King Hussein Medical Hospital on Thursday for treatment.

The injured are: Rihab Ahmad (18), Ghazi Ahmad (14), Mohammad Kamal (9) and Mashour Hassan (28). The four are listed in

fair condition.

The accident involved two passenger buses and a tractor which collided at the Naimeh intersection, killing 31 people and injuring 92 others. Other sources reported 32 dead.

It was the second worst road accident in the country in a two-month period.

Meanwhile, the Civil Defence Department (CDD) remains in intensive care.

USAID representative in Jordan Tom Oliver and Vincent Hunt of Brown University addressed the inauguration ceremony stressing the importance of the clinic's services to the community.

They said they hoped that the new clinic's programme would contribute to the development of medical services in Jordan as a whole.

University President Fawzi Gharaibeh opened the clinic expressing appreciation to USAID and also to Brown University in Rhode Island which provided the expertise and sponsored the creation of the clinic.

and faculty members inscribed through the university.

"We need time to recruit sufficient staff to ensure the continuity of the programme because we are concerned with patient follow-up," said Dr. Khouri.

He said that USAID has pledged \$793,000 to be spent over four years by Brown University on the purchase of computers and the training of staff members.

The programme requires staff members at the clinic to meet with each patient for at least 30 minutes to obtain his/her background and medical history, and later have shorter follow-up meetings with these patients during regular visits.

The clinic will provide comprehensive and continuous medical services to families covered within the programme at reasonable fees, according to Dr. Khouri.

He added that the clinic will stress punctuality.

"After we have established the right working mechanism and acquired sufficient staff for continuity, we plan to expand the services to include other sectors of patients," said Dr. Khouri.

A TRAVELLERS VIEW: The Triumphal Arch in Jerash, shown above, is one of a newly-issued series of postcards and posters by Arslan Ramadan. Mr. Ramadan came across these old paintings by travellers to Petra and Jerash during the early 19th century at a British library. Fascinated by their beauty and aware of their rarity, Mr. Ramadan has decided to reprint and market them in Jordan. Explorers of that period often were accompanied by artists to depict scenes along their journeys.



WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

THIRD YOUTH THEATRE FESTIVAL

★ Drama in Arabic entitled "A Face For Everything" at the Royal Cultural Centre at 7:30 p.m.

EXHIBITIONS

- ★ Sculpture and ceramic exhibition by Iraqi artist Laith Al Turk at the Orfali Art Gallery in Umm Utheima (Tel. 826932).
- ★ Exhibition by Lebanese artist Gloria Tannouri at Philadelphia Hotel (Tel. 607100).
- ★ Exhibition of Palestinian national heritage at the Phoenix Gallery for Art and Culture (Tel. 655291).
- ★ Two exhibitions by artists Khaldoun Abdul Razzaq and Abdul Jabbar Suleiman at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- ★ Exhibition by artist Raja' Abu Ghazaleh entitled "Heritage and Faces" at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- ★ Painting exhibition by artist Fakhr Farzat at Baladna Art Gallery (Tel. 687598).

★ Exhibition by plastic artist Kheir Harzallah at the Jordanian Plastic Association in Shmeisani (Tel. 699914).

★ Exhibition by artists Hassoun Abboud and Hadi Se'ad at the Phoenix Gallery for Art and Culture (Tel. 695291).

★ Exhibition by artist Bishara Al Najar at the Orient Gallery for Fine Arts, Gardens Str. (Tel. 698513).

★ Painting exhibition by Iraqi painters "The Pioneers Group" at Al Ain Art Gallery — Wadi Sagra (Tel. 644451).

★ Exhibition on the development of "Le Louvre" at the French Cultural Centre.

★ Painting exhibition by artist George Bahjouri at Al Balqa Art Gallery (Tel. 720677).

★ Painting exhibition by Jordanian artist Abdul Ra'uf Sham'oun at Darat Al Fannum of the Abdin House. Also showing "permanent" exhibition of 56 Arab contemporary artists (Tel. 643251/2).

Jordan to attend Bahrain meeting on regional electricity network

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A Jordanian delegation will attend a July 9-10 meeting in Bahrain on a proposal for a regional electricity network, the head of the Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) said Saturday.

The meeting was originally scheduled to be held in Kuwait, but the venue was shifted to Bahrain and invitees were informed of the move this week, officials said.

JEA Director-General Mohammad Arafah said the meeting, organised by the Arab Fund for Social and Economic Development (AFSED), will review studies made so far on linking the power grids of all Arab countries east of the Mediterranean.

This would mean the six Gulf Arab states — Saudi

Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, Oman and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) — which make up the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), Yemen, Syria, Lebanon and Jordan as well as Iraq.

"It is a technical meeting involving the complex issues involved in linking the power grids of all these countries," Mr. Arafah told the Jordan Times.

No further details were available on the proposed project. Mr. Arafah said studies had been going on "for many years," and that details could be discussed only after the Bahrain meeting. He did not say whether he himself might be attending the gathering.

Erstwhile considered a routine gathering of technical experts, the meeting drew sudden attention when a Kuwaiti newspaper, the English-language Arab

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Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, Oman and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) — which make up the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), Yemen, Syria, Lebanon and Jordan as well as Iraq.

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informed that it has been shifted to Bahrain," he said.

No further detail or explanation was immediately available as to why the venue was shifted.

The Arab Fund for Social and Economic Development is extending a loan of \$115 million to help Jordan's energy sector. Part of the loan will be used to finance an expansion project at the JEA's Aqaba thermal power plant and part for completing the Aqaba segment of a linkage between the power grids of Jordan and Egypt.

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These policies are implemented, accusing the government of being unfair in its treatment of applicants.

They presented ideas and suggestions on the process of appointments and agreed with Parliament Speaker Taher Masri and the minister that another meeting should be held to clarify some points and to put forth further proposals to help improve the system.

According to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, some of the deputies said they wanted to meet with Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali to discuss new political developments.

In May, Dr. Khalaf deputised for His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, in opening a Jordanian-French economic cooperation conference.

The conference resulted in the creation of a Franco-Jordanian business council which was declared in Amman last month.

tiles, agricultural and medical equipment.

Meanwhile, the government came under fire from several Parliament members who criticised its policies in appointing civil servants.

Meeting in the Photos Hall at Parliament, 53 deputies listened to Mohammad Thuneibat, minister of state for administrative development and Abdullah Ulayyan, head of the Civil Service Commission (CSC) outline the government's policies and regulations for filling vacant positions in government departments.

Some of the deputies said they were entirely dissatisfied with the manner in which

Cabinet selects team to refugee host meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — The Council of Ministers announced that Jordan will take part in a conference by Arab states hosting refugees due to open in Damascus on July 16.

The Cabinet formed a delegation to take part in the week-long meeting headed by Asem Ghosheh, head of the Palestinian affairs department.

The Cabinet also announced the appointment of Mohammad Obaidat as secretary general of the Audit Bureau. Mr. Obaidat was serving as secretary general of the Ministry of Communications and Postal Affairs.

A statement at the end of the Cabinet meeting said the council also approved of JD 50 million worth of industrial, trade and educational projects as economic projects exempt from taxes according to a law on encouraging investments.

It said the projects will employ Jordanian workforce and include food and drug industries, garment and tex-

tiles, agricultural and medical equipment.

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major changes in the near future, which, she said, would have their impact on the economic sector.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, said the two officials focused their discussion on tourism, agricultural inputs, plastics and fertiliser sectors, and the two sides agreed to follow up on these topics with further contacts between business sectors in France and Jordan.

The agency reported that

Alia Gateway Hotel posts JD 1.2m in profits in 1993

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Alia Gateway Hotel, near Queen Alia International Airport (QAIA), Saturday announced JD 1.2 million in profits for 1993.

Hotel General Manager Nazib Dabbas said that in the first three years after its establishment in 1985, the hotel suffered recurrent losses, but afterwards the facility's financial condition picked up and last year the hotel's net profits amounted to JD 1.2 million.

Between 1985 and 1987, the hotel suffered JD 705,000 in losses which were covered by profits in the subsequent years, Dr. Dabbas told the Jordan Times.

He said the hotel so far

accumulated profits totalling JD 4 million, of which JD 2 million are being spent on renovating the hotel.

Dr. Dabbas said that the renovation, which started last month, will cover all sections of the facility and take a year to complete.

He said the largest portion of last year's profits were earned from revenue on accommodations for transit passengers arriving at QAIA.

Dr. Dabbas said that the hotel has accommodated a total of one million guests from its establishment until the year end 1993.

Noting that the hotel is controlled by Royal Jordanian, the national carrier, Dr. Dabbas said that 275 Jordanians are currently employed at the facility.

He said the hotel so far

India's purchase of Jordanian phosphates and potash; in 1993, India's imports from Jordan totalled JD 65 million compared with nearly JD 130 million in 1991.

"Indian imports from Jordan are going to rise, and this is a reality," said T.S. Sundaram, deputy secretary general of the PHDCCI, referring to the increased role that the Indian government has given to the private sector in agricultural production where fertilizers are employed.

Samih Madani, director-general of the Jordan Phosphate Mines Company (JPMC), agreed with the assessment and said the company was highly optimistic that Indian purchases of Jordanian phosphates were going to increase next year.

Mr. Virmani and Mr. Sundaram said Indian businessmen were counting on their country's good relations with Jordan to help them gain access to other markets in the region, including the West Bank and Gaza Strip as well as Iraq.

The three areas also consume huge quantities of fertilizers for agriculture, and as such, could also, directly and indirectly, help increase Indian imports of Jordanian fertiliser-related items such as phosphate and potash.

Bosnian rivals slam latest peace plan

SARAJEVO (R) — Leaders of Bosnia's warring Serb and Muslim factions have dismissed the latest international peace plan even before its details are due to be disclosed to them in Geneva next week.

Bosnia's Muslim government said it would not accept the break-up of the country and the Bosnian Serb leadership dismissed the proposed map dividing up territory as "impossible."

While Bosnia's opposing sides slammed the peace plan drawn up by the big powers, U.S. President Bill Clinton scored a political victory when the Senate narrowly rejected an effort to order him to break the U.N. arms embargo on Bosnia so that the Muslims could better arms themselves against the Serbs. (See adjacent story).

Presidential aides said lifting the embargo would wreck peace efforts by encouraging Bosnian Muslims to fight instead.

"We believe it's a confirmation of the president's Bosnia policy," said White House spokeswoman, Dee

Dee Myers.

Referring to the peace plan, Bosnian Prime Minister Haris Silajdzic said his government would not accept the break-up of the country and that an ultimatum from the five-nation "contact group", which drew up the document, would only prolong the war.

Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic on Friday also accused the mediators of trying to prolong the war by presenting Serbs with an "impossible" map of the country's ethnic division.

The plan, whose details are not yet known to the warring parties, is expected to be presented to them next week in Geneva on a take-it-or-leave-it basis, together with a package of threats and promises.

The plan envisages an ethnic carve-up under which the Muslim-Croat federation would get 51 per cent of Bosnia and the Serbs, who now hold 70 per cent, would get the rest.

"Legalising genocide and rewarding the aggressor opens the door for a long war in Bosnia," Mr. Silajdzic told

the Croatian weekly *Nedjelja Dalmacija*. "We are not accepting the results of the aggression and occupation. Why should we?"

However, he added: "If the contact group comes up with something that we will talk about, we will certainly take it into consideration."

Mr. Karadzic told the Bosnian Serb news agency SRNA the map was drawn "with the sole purpose that the Serbs would reject it and be blamed for the continuation of the war."

The faction leaders' maneuvering ahead of the next round of peace talks came against a background of continued fighting on several fronts in Bosnia.

The U.N. said the Serbs had counter-attacked and re-taken some ground lost in a major Muslim offensive in recent weeks.

Both sides have, when it suits them, ignored a month-long temporary truce brokered by the United Nations, which hopes to extend the ceasefire when it expires on July 9.

U.N. spokesman Com-

mander Eric Chaperon told reporters in Sarajevo Serb forces had advanced on Thursday around a strategic road running across Mount Ozren in central Bosnia.

He said Serb soldiers had not yet retaken all they had lost of the finger of Serb-held territory running south of the town of Doboj.

Heavy shelling was also reported further west near the government-held town of Bugojno. Shelling in north-central Bosnia persisted on Friday morning.

The truce was to pave the way for agreement on a long-term peace deal for the country, which hinges on both sides accepting the new map setting out Bosnia's ethnic division.

Details of the map were agreed by officials this week and are to be ratified by the foreign ministers of Britain, France, Germany, Russia and the United States in Geneva on July 5.

The warring parties are expected to be presented with the plan at a parallel Geneva meeting.

Senate backs Clinton on Bosnia

WASHINGTON (R) — In a major victory for President Clinton, the Senate Friday narrowly rejected an effort to order him to break the U.N. arms embargo on Bosnia so Muslims could better fight to defend themselves.

Before the Senate vote, Democratic leader George Mitchell told the chamber: "If the embargo is lifted, the war will inevitably widen. There will be many more deaths, much more ethnic cleansing, and it will then be an American war."

The Senate approved the bill by voice vote. House-Senate negotiators must now work out a compromise of the House of Representatives' defence bill version, for Congress's approval.

The House had voted 244-178 to order Mr. Clinton to break the embargo. Senate approval and then final approval by Congress would have forced Mr. Clinton to either veto the defence bill or lift the arms embargo.

Mr. Clinton and his top aides lobbied senators by telephone to reject the order. They said lifting the embargo would shatter current peace efforts by encouraging Bos-

nian Muslims to fight instead. "We believe it's a confirmation of the president's Bosnia policy," White House spokeswoman Dee Myers said.

Senate Republicans said

they wanted to arm themselves and fight rather than accept the peace plan proposed by the United States, Russia, Britain, and France.

In other action on the bill, the Senate:

— Approved 55-45, \$150 million to keep alive the option of building more than the 20 B-2 stealth bombers now planned.

— Rejected 50-50, an effort to terminate peace-time draft registration system.

— Approved 88-12, a \$376 million increase in military retirement to put it in line with civilian pension levels.

— Voted by voice vote to resolve a marine corps-army dispute over tanks by requiring the army national guard to give 84 of its tanks to the marines, but also require the army to replenish army national guard stocks with 84 other tanks.

"If we are not to defend

Kohl to pressure Major to accept Dehaene

LUXEMBOURG (AFP) — German Chancellor Helmut Kohl will bring heavy pressure next week on British Prime Minister John Major to accept Jean-Luc Dehaene as the next head of the European Commission, the German and Luxembourg foreign ministers said here after talks Friday.

Mr. Major vetoed Mr. Dehaene, the Belgian prime minister, at last month's Corfu summit of the European Union, saying he would never accept him because of his federalist views.

Mr. Kohl, whose country took over the rotating EU presidency Friday from Greece, has called a special summit in Brussels for July 15 to resolve the matter.

German Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel said here that Bonn had no other candidate but Mr. Dehaene to succeed Commission president Jacques Delors on January 1.

"We must find a consensus, and for that rally John Major to the candidacy of Jean-Luc Dehaene," he said.

Mr. Kinkel acknowledged however that Mr. Major had repeated his opposition to Mr. Dehaene when they met Thursday in London.

Luxembourg Foreign Minister Jacques Poos said Mr. Kohl would be telephoning all European leaders next week to try to achieve a consensus.

Murayama gets thumbs down from Japanese

TOKYO (Agencies) — Japan's first socialist prime minister in 47 years, Tomiichi Murayama, woke up to the harsh fact Saturday that he does not have the backing of the Japanese people.

Two opinion polls published by the Yomiuri Shimbun and Sankei newspapers carried out among 1,500 eligible voters, showed that only 37 per cent gave him their backing.

His predecessor Tsutomu Hata had a 56.8 per cent backing when he was sworn in April.

The polls revealed a public clearly distrustful of the marriage of convenience he has made between his own Social Democratic Party and the former ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and the New Party Sakigake.

The Sankei poll showed that 55.3 per cent of Japanese did not want Mr. Murayama and his cabinet while the Yomiuri survey found 44 per cent disappointed.

Some members of Mr. Murayama's own party have criticised their leader for entering into an alliance which they see as a virtual political alliance with the devil.

The 70-year-old prime minister flies to Naples, Italy, next week for a meeting with other leaders of the world's seven leading industrialised nations.

He does so without public endorsement for his policies and in the knowledge that his G7 partners will be wondering just how long his unlikely coalition will last in Japan's current fevered political climate.

In his inaugural press conference Friday, Mr. Murayama acknowledged that the public at home and abroad were worried about

Attacks against U.N. forces at their highest

SARAJEVO (AFP) — Attacks against U.N. forces in Bosnia this week reached their highest level in four months, a U.N. Protection Force (UNPROFOR) spokesman said here Saturday.

Mr. Dehaene, while eventually backed by all 11 other EU members in Corfu, admitted Friday that in the face of the British veto his chances of winning the post were now minimal, though he said he would not withdraw.

However he told the Belgian parliament that a consensus was the priority, even if it meant a new candidate.

Meanwhile, Dutch Prime Minister Ruud Lubbers said in an interview published in The Hague that he had maintained his candidacy up to the May 30 decision by Mr. Kohl and French President Francois Mitterrand to back Mr. Dehaene.

He told the Dutch daily NRC Handelsblad that he had encountered resistance from Mr. Kohl the moment his candidacy was announced, and said his relations with the German chancellor had suffered as a result.

Antipathy to the "Franco-German axis" was a factor in Mr. Kohl's veto, as well as opposition from Eurosceptics in his Conservative Party at home.

In Gorazde, in the eastern Muslim-held enclave, an observation post where a British soldier was killed last week, twice came under fire during the day.

And in Visoko, central Bosnia, a Canadian observation post twice came under sniper fire from a suspected Muslim fighter.

Meanwhile, Friday night was reported to have been mostly calm, except for the northern corridor of Brcko, where U.N. monitors counted 110 heavy weapon detonations in a sector east of Gradačac.

It was not known who was doing the firing, but Muslim Bosnian forces have been increasing pressure on the Serb-held corridor which links their western and eastern territories in Bosnia.

In the western Bihać pocket, where Muslim government forces are battling Muslim autonomists at a time when both groups are surrounded by Serb separatists, there was heavy mortaring of the Plećigrad area and reports of numerous government casualties.

On the North Korean nuclear issue he said there would be no change in Japan's policy which to date has largely supported the U.S. stance in the standoff over Pyongyang's nuclear ambitions.

The Socialist party has had friendly relations with North Korea.

He also pledged the use of Japanese military in non-military United Nations peacekeeping operations, reversing his own position on the issue.

Mr. Murayama also promised not to delay implementation of an electoral reform bill, legislation which has brought previous governments to their knees, due in part to the opposition of the LDP which sees a threat to its own political fortunes.

But the immediate issue, for the new administration is the surge in the value of the yen. Mr. Murayama has promised "steep" efforts to stabilise exchange rates and hopes the issue will come up in Naples next week.

New Finance Minister Masayoshi Takemura would have liked to see "quick measures" taken before the summit but admitted there were none around."

"The only answer now is for appropriate and timely actions, including market intervention and international cooperation," he said.



150-MILLION YEAR OLD FOSSIL — The head and part of the skeleton of a large sea-reptile that died 150 million years ago have been unearthed in southwest England, archaeologists said here Friday. Bristol University-based U.S. Professor Glenn Storrs said the creature was a pliosaurus, a carnivorous sea reptile, with a head 1.8 metres in length. It was discovered three weeks ago in a quarry where the head, teeth and bones of another pliosaurus — smaller and younger — were dug up in 1980. The archaeologists hope the latest skeleton will provide one of the most complete remains of this creature from the Jurassic period. They have already unearthed the dorsal spine and several vertebrae, an 18 centimetre tooth and part of a fin. The fossilised remains will be removed from the quarry along with the earth and rocks they have rested in for the past millennia before being dusted out, cleaned and exhibited at Bristol Museum. The work has been slowed down by recent good weather as the researchers have been forced to dampen the soil to prevent the fossil from drying out too quickly.

French send more troops to southern Rwanda

GOMA, Zaire (R) — France sent a large number of troops on Friday to reinforce its military strength in southern Rwanda where hundreds of terrified civilians remain threatened by pro-government militia.

Meanwhile, Friday night was reported to have been mostly calm, except for the northern corridor of Brcko, where U.N. monitors counted 110 heavy weapon detonations in a sector east of Gradačac.

It was not known who was doing the firing, but Muslim Bosnian forces have been increasing pressure on the Serb-held corridor which links their western and eastern territories in Bosnia.

In the western Bihać pocket, where Muslim government forces are battling Muslim autonomists at a time when both groups are surrounded by Serb separatists, there was heavy mortaring of the Plećigrad area and reports of numerous government casualties.

A French military spokesman said he did not have the exact number of reinforcements dispatched from the base Goma, Zaire, to the southwestern town of Kibuye but described it as "a large force."

More than 1,500 French and 40 Senegalese troops are taking part in the Rwanda operation and more troops and equipment arriving this week are expected to bring the force to its full strength of 2,500.

Asked whether all were members of Rwanda's Tutsi minority, a French military spokesman told Reuters: "All are humans and that is what matters."

But military sources said virtually all were Tutsis. The Tutsi and Hutu government opponents have borne the brunt of the killings by the Hute militaries.

He said he expected more casualties to be evacuated on Friday from the area around Bisesero, where French troops are protecting hundreds of Tutsi from attack by militiamen.

U.N. officers said the evacuation of Tutsis, the first since France's intervention began last week, would test relations between French forces deployed in Rwanda and the local Hutu population which had welcomed them as saviours.

Those coming out of the bushes are survivors of a wave of massacres that erupted in Rwanda after President Juvenal Habyarimana was killed in a plane crash on April 6.

In Brussels, the medical charity Medicins Sans Frontières (MSF) said an unidentified helicopter in rebel-held western Rwanda fired a missile at a vehicle, splitting the tree in half," MSF's Dr. Pierre Harze told Reuters by satellite telephone from Rwanda.

Dr. Harze said a Rwandan MSF staff member and his companion travelling in the car were not hurt in the attack, which took place about 10 km from the southern town of Nyamata in the Bugesera area.

There was no other vehicle on the road and the helicopter was travelling very low when it attacked the car."

The doctor said the car had the medical charity's stickers pasted all over it as well as an MSF flag.

"It was clearly an aid agency vehicle," he said.

There has been no comment from either the RPF or the interim government based in the north-western city of Gisenyi.

Germany takes control of Nazi document centre

BERLIN (R) — The United States handed control of the world's most important collection of Nazi records to German authorities at a solemn ceremony on Friday, nearly a half a century after their capture.

The Berlin document centre, a rich store of 75 million Nazi records that has played a vital role in prosecuting war criminals around the world, was transferred from the U.S. State Department to Germany's Federal Archives.

The handover has alarmed Jewish groups, historians and Nazi hunters who fear Germany cannot be trusted with the documents.

U.S. and German scholars and officials said the concerns were unfounded.

The document centre has helped Nazi hunters prosecute hundreds of war criminals and was used extensively for the Nuremberg trials after World War II.

The records contain everything from marriage applications from SS officers to the guest list of a 1919 Nazi beer hall rally where Adolf Hitler scribbled his name, his first association with the party.

But opponents of the transfer are worried Germany may restrict access to the documents.

U.S. and German scholars and officials said the concerns were unfounded.

German laws and policies governing access to the centre will be nearly identical to those of the U.S.

Moreover, officials from both the U.S. and Germany said there was virtually no chance that scholars and Nazi hunters would be hindered in their access to the files.

But they stressed that requests for access to the files will be handled as liberally as in the past," said Siegfried Buerger, vice-president of the Federal Archives and head, of the agency's Potsdam branch office that will oversee the document centre.

Requests, however, from

people who are neither interested in scholarly nor criminal research to see records of Nazi party members not in public life or not yet dead at least 30 years could in some circumstances be blocked, officials said.

More than 100,000 files were handed over to Germany in 1945, and the U.S. has since added another 100,000 to the collection.

The documents have been microfilmed over the last five years, and copies will become available at the U.S. National Archives in Maryland over the next two years.

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U.S. immigration official arrested for selling green cards

5 World News

U.S. immigration official arrested for selling green cards

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — A top immigration official in northern California was arrested for allegedly selling residency visas known as green cards, authorities said Friday. William Malcolm Tait, 45, was arrested in Texas on Thursday, said Anthony Odom, chief deputy U.S. marshal in Dallas. Mr. Tait was deputy assistant director in the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) office in San Francisco, but had been on temporary assignment in Dallas for the past month. Philip Waters, who heads the INS office in San Francisco, said the arrest caught him by surprise. "It was totally out of the blue," said Mr. Waters, who acknowledged Mr. Tait had control over issuing residency visas in his San Francisco job. The San Francisco Examiner reported Friday that Justice Department investigators believe Mr. Tait made from \$300,000 to \$1 million in the scheme. Starting in 1983, he allegedly helped one San Francisco-area man obtain 15 cards for sale bypassing normal INS controls. That man is now cooperating with authorities, the Examiner reported.

Tape lawyers hit at police surveillance

PARIS (AFP) — Legal will start flying Monday over the police surveillance of French businessman and politician Bernard Tapie before his arrest last week, his lawyers said here. In a statement issued late Friday they said no magistrate had requested the close-range watch on Mr. Tapie's luxury Paris home using microphone and infra-red cameras before his parliamentary immunity from prosecution was lifted last Tuesday. Mr. Tapie was dragged from his bed by police at dawn Wednesday and charged with serious fraud, including misuse of company assets and tax evasion. The lawyers also complained that a tap had been ordered on the telephone of Mr. Tapie's daughter Natacha even though she had nothing to do with the charges against her father.

Rare early printed books from German castle sold in London

LONDON (AP) — Early printed books from one of the great aristocratic collections in Europe sold for more than £3 million (\$4.5 million) on Friday. New York dealer H.P. Kraus bought the four top-priced lots of the collection owned by the Fuerstenberg family of Germany and sold by Sotheby's auction house in London. The 300 works came from the court library in the family castle at Donaueschingen where two streams meet in the Black Forest to form the source of the River Danube. The head of the family, Joachim Prince zu Fuerstenberg, also sold many manuscripts and books from the library in 1982 and again last year. American, German and other European book dealers and collectors crowded the saleroom Friday. German universities, museums, libraries and town archives were prominent among the purchasers of the incunabula — books issued from the start of the printing in Germany in the 1430s up to 1500. The sale realised £3,217,532 (\$4,954,999). Kraus paid £221,500 (\$341,110) each for two items. One was the only surviving copy of the first datable piece of printing in Vienna, a single-sheet calendar for 1462 showing supposedly good and bad days for letting blood and taking medicine and purgatives. Blood-letting calendars were commonly put up on a wall for quick consultation and then discarded when a year passed. So few of them survived. This is why it would be a difficult and dangerous thing to start tampering with it because in the process of picking out some threads you do not know what else will unravel.

Archbishop Habgood said that major constitutional issues, such as the union between England and Scotland, could be at risk and added: "The worst that might happen would be the rejection of the monarchy itself." In a much-publicised interview broadcast earlier this week, the prince also said the book was taken apart as a search for old manuscripts. Kraus paid a similar sum for a little book of 26 woodblock prints about a battle between devils and angels for the soul of a man on his deathbed, printed in the 1470s. Kraus also paid £177,500 (\$273,350) for a 1477 illustrated poem on the death of Charles the Bold, Duke of Burgundy, who was slain in a siege in France earlier than a year and £155,500 for a 1477 printing (\$239,470) of the German epic poem of the "Parzival."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Jiang Zemin reaffirms Communist Party control over military

BEIJING (AFP) — Chinese President Jiang Zemin has reaffirmed, for the second time in three weeks, that the Chinese Communist Party has absolute power over the military. In a speech Friday delivered in the presence of high-level People's Liberation Army (PLA) officials in Beijing on the 75th anniversary of the Chinese Communist Party, Mr. Jiang said: "The Chinese military is under the direct management of the Communist Party." The speech by Mr. Jiang, who is also party secretary-general, was quoted at length on the front page of the official People's Daily and other major newspapers. "The party organisations within the PLA play a vital role," said Mr. Jiang, who is also the chief of the military. "In the new period, particular attention must be paid to the study of Deng Xiaoping's theories on socialism with Chinese characteristics and on building the military," he said. This is the second time in three weeks that the likely successor of Deng Xiaoping, who will be 90 in August, has insisted that the military must be loyal to the communist Party in the "new period." On June 8, he made a similar speech during the unusual promotion of 19 PLA officers to the rank of general, which brought to 42 the number of generals in the Chinese military. The increasingly frequent use by Mr. Jiang of the expression "new period" means that for some communist leaders the post-Deng era has already begun, political observers said. The decline in the patriarch's health in the last year has seen Mr. Jiang try to reinforce, as quickly as possible, his control over the military so as to have its unequivocal support for him to succeed Mr. Deng and remain in power.

New nominee for U.S. Forces Pacific commander

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Clinton has nominated Vice Adm. Richard Macke, director of the joint staff, to the post of four-star admiral and commander in chief of U.S. Forces in the Pacific, the Pentagon said Friday. The move came one week after the navy withdrew the name of the previous nominee, Adm. Stanley R. Arthur, after objections arose in Congress over his handling of a sexual harassment case. Adm. Macke, a three-star admiral, had been nominated to take Adm. Arthur's place at the No. 2 admiral in the navy, and the process of congressional approval had already begun for that post. One reason navy officials cited for withdrawing Adm. Arthur's name was the potential delay in filling the Pacific post at a time of tension with North Korea over its potential nuclear arsenal. Adm. Macke, 56, is a veteran of more than 150 combat missions in Vietnam, and once served as commander of the aircraft carrier USS Dwight Eisenhower. Sen. David Durenberger had threatened to place a hold on Adm. Arthur's required Senate confirmation because of a sexual harassment case involving a navy officer from Minnesota, Mr. Durenberger's state. Lt. Rebecca Hansen, 28, filed the complaint last year against her instructor during helicopter flight training in Corpus Christi, Texas. The officer was disciplined and later left the navy. But in the meantime, Lt. Hansen was ordered to undergo a psychiatric evaluation. She later failed at the navy helicopter pilot school in Pensacola, Florida. Adm. Arthur reviewed the failing grade and affirmed the decision last April. Mr. Durenberger didn't object to Adm. Arthur's decision but questioned the navy's response to his questions about why Lt. Hansen has been put through psychiatric evaluation, said aide Rick Evans. Mr. Durenberger was also concerned that the navy had not adequately explored the possibility that her failing grade was tied to her filing the sexual harassment complaint. The navy's action raised eyebrows among many senior officers, who delivered Adm. Arthur, a noted leader in the U.S. effort in the Gulf war, had been treated unfairly. Defence Secretary William Perry said he had chosen not to intervene on Adm. Arthur's behalf.

More Pakistani troops leave for Bosnia duty

ISLAMABAD (R) — Two hundred more Pakistani troops have left to join U.N. peacekeeping operations in war-torn Bosnia, an army spokesman said on Saturday. He said the 200 troops, who left on Friday, would go directly to Bosnia without the customary two-weeks' training in the Slovak Republic given to the 600 soldiers in the previous two detachments of Pakistani troops already there. Pakistan, which has offered a total of 3,000 troops to U.N. forces in Muslim-dominated Bosnia, is one of a number of countries with large Muslim populations which have sent troops to U.N. peacekeeping operations in the former Yugoslav republic.

Taiwan sentences second officer in arms scandal

TAIPEI (R) — Taiwan's military court has sentenced a second military officer in a growing scandal over arms procurement that has already toppled the island's navy chief, the Defence Ministry said on Saturday. Kuo Yi-Chung, a language training officer, received seven years in prison on Friday for leaking classified military documents to arms dealer Chang Chia-Cheng, one of 10 Taiwanese arms dealers indicted in the scandal, a ministry statement said. Fourteen generals have been punished administratively in the scandal and nine officers have been indicted. Kuo was the second navy officer to be sentenced. A navy commander was given life imprisonment last month. Taiwan launched a probe into its arms procurement policy following the murder of Yin Chin-Fung, 48, chief secretary of the navy's Procurement Office. Yin is believed to have been murdered because he was about to reveal bribes paid for the awarding of weapons contracts. His killers have not been identified.

Ending church-state link threatens constitution'

LONDON (AP) — Moves to separate church and state would be "difficult and dangerous" and could jeopardise the entire British constitution, including the monarchy, the Archbishop of York warned in The Times Saturday. The Church of England, was responding to speculation that the Prince of Wales might not wish to become head of the church on becoming king. "The prince said recently that he preferred the title 'Defender of the Faith' to 'Defender of the Faith' — the established Church of England — introduced by Henry VIII. Archbishop Habgood said it would require parliamentary approval to amend the coronation oath, in which the sovereign pledges to maintain "the Protestant reformed religion established by law" and declares "I am a faithful Protestant." This might lead to "a situation which could become uncontrollable in terms of what might happen in parliament. This is why it would be a difficult and dangerous thing to start tampering with it because in the process of picking out some threads you do not know what else will unravel."

Archbishop Habgood said that major constitutional issues, such as the union between England and Scotland, could be at risk and added: "The worst that might happen would be the rejection of the monarchy itself."

In a much-publicised interview broadcast earlier this week, the prince also said this did not affect his eligibility to be supreme governor of the Church of England.

Moderate earthquake jolts Japan

TOKYO (AFP) — A moderate earthquake measuring 4.6 on the Richter scale jolted northern Japan Saturday, the Meteorological Agency said here. The epicentre of the quake, which struck shortly before 8 a.m. (2300 GMT), was in Hokkaido Prefecture, the agency said, adding that there was no fear that the tremor had triggered a tsunami tidal wave.

U.N. Council calls for genocide inquiry

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — The Security Council on Friday called for a commission of experts to investigate genocide and atrocities in Rwanda, paving the way for a possible war crimes tribunal.

More than 200,000 people, mostly Tutsi civilians, are estimated to have been killed in politically motivated ethnic violence by government forces, paramilitary and pro-Hutu militia.

The 15-nation council voted unanimously to request the secretary general to urgently establish a commission to investigate reports of genocide and other violations of international humanitarian law.

In four months, he would report on its conclusions and make recommendations about further action. This could mean establishment of a tribunal to try those accused of genocide and other crimes, though the council did not specifically mention creation of a tribunal.

"We think this will clear the way for a war crimes tribunal and we welcome it," said Claude Dusaidi, spokesman for the rebel Rwandan Patriotic Front.

Rwanda, a council member, voted in favour of the resolution, but made no comment.

The council already established a war crimes inquiry commission and tribunal for war crimes in Bosnia and Croatia.

Spain spearheaded the effort to pass the resolution and was joined by Argentina, Britain, the Czech Republic, France, New Zealand and the United States.

"We want a complete and detailed account and want to bring to justice those responsible for the atrocities," Spanish Ambassador Juan Antonio

Yanez-Barnuevo said later. He added that France would cooperate in providing information from its humanitarian intervention.

Last week the Security Council authorised France to deploy a 2-month humanitarian mission in Rwanda to save civilians from atrocities being committed by both sides.

French Ambassador Jean-Bernard Merimee told the council that for months the world has heard of systematic violations of human rights in Rwanda.

"This has aroused the indignation of the entire world and it is intolerable for the perpetrators to remain unpunished. The international community demands that those who have committed these atrocities be held accountable," he said.

U.S. Ambassador Edward W. Gnehm, deputy U.N. envoy, told the council: "We can transform revenge into justice, affirm the rule of law and hopefully bring this terrible cycle of violence to a merciful close."

Chinese Ambassador Li Zhaoxing expressed reservations about the resolution and the increasing involvement of the Council in human rights and matters which are entrusted to other U.N. bodies.

"The Chinese delegation holds that establishing the commission of experts in this resolution is an exceptional action... and should not be considered a precedent."

China is sensitive about criticism of its own human rights record in Tibet and its suppression of political dissidents at home, arguing that international community should respect its sovereignty and not meddle in its internal affairs.



Rwandan Tutsi refugees from the Besero village, west of Rwanda eat military rations at the Goma airport in Zaire (AFP photo)

16 dead, 20 wounded in rebel shelling

KIGALI (AFP) — Rwandan rebels fired three shells into the government-held Kigali market on Saturday killing 16 people and wounding about 20 others, witnesses and hospital sources said.

The shells crashed into the market around 0730 GMT, at a time when it was crowded with shoppers, the witnesses said.

Several of those wounded were in serious condition when they arrived at the overcrowded hospital run by the International Committee of the Red Cross. The hospital is also in government-held territory.

Fighting between the mainly Tutsi rebels of the Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF) and the Hutu-led government forces picked up during the night and sporadic shelling

persisted on Saturday in the Rwandan capital.

An estimated 200,000 to 500,000 people, most of them members of the minority Tutsi tribe, are estimated to have been slaughtered in the tribal warfare which broke out on April 6, following the suspicious death of the Rwandan general in a plane crash.

Rebel Tutsi forces had opened fire on two planes flying over Kigali Thursday and banned use of the runway, which lies in RPF-held territory, because of fears that French troops currently engaged in a humanitarian mission in the south-east will be airlifted into the capital.

The RPF, which currently holds more than half the country, accuses France of supplying and training the mainly Hutu government and army and suspects it of being

ready to airlift troops to the government's aid.

Maj. Plante said UNAMIR was also negotiating with government forces to restart the evacuation of the homeless, prisoners of war and potential hostages.

"We have the green light from the RPF (for this) but we are having coordination problems with the government forces," said Maj. Plante.

Meanwhile Saturday, some 250 French troops began deploying around Kibuye, in western Rwanda on Lake Kivu, a French military spokesman said.

The soldiers who left Goma, Zaire, on Friday, were to relieve commandos who had been protecting about 800 Tutsi refugees in Gishyiti.

Guinea-Bissau prepares for first-ever free election

BISSAU (AFP) — The people of Guinea-Bissau are preparing to go to the polls Sunday to choose a president and new parliament, in their first-ever free national election since independence 20 years ago.

On the eve of polling Saturday campaigners had returned to Bissau for a show of force in the capital, where a quarter of the West African country's 400,000 registered voters — half the total population — have their home.

Huge posters of the eight presidential candidates hung along the main roads and cars decked out in different party colours criss-crossed the city as rallies heightened the party atmosphere.

The excitement was tinged with anxiety, however, at the headquarters of the National Electoral Commission which is concerned about the logistical problems of distributing voting papers, booths and ballot boxes in the mud of the early rainy season.

In some voting centres, material would arrive only by Saturday or Sunday morning, one commission member told AFP.

Some 100 international observers from Brazil, Canada, France, Portugal and Sweden, and from other African countries were already installed in the former Portuguese colony to supervise the electoral process and help ensure fairness.

The authorities want to prove to the world that Guinea-Bissau democracy is not a "stuttering baby," sources here say.

The incumbent president Joao Bernardo Vieira, in power since a coup in November 1980, is standing for the Independence of Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde (PAIGC), the only legal party until its home.

Mr. Vieira is being challenged by seven different candidates and diplomats based here say he may benefit from the divisions besetting the opposition.

The challengers are former premier Victor Sadao Maria, former PAIGC member Koumba Yalla, businessman Carlos Domingos, opposition figure Mendo Kankolla, Domingos Fernandes of the Bah-Fatih Movement, lawyer Antonia Rosa Gomes and Bubacar Djalo, candidate for the opposition "Union for Change."

In the parliamentary poll 1,136 candidates representing eight parties are fighting for 100 seats in the national assembly, which has existed before with only indirectly elected representatives.

Macedonia embargo still on

SKOPJE (AFP) — Macedonia's President Kiro Gligorov warned Friday of serious consequences arising from the refusal of the European Court of Justice to order the immediate lifting of the Greek trade embargo on his country.

The court refused last week to rule on the case, brought by the European Commission, saying it wanted to study the matter in depth, but Mr. Gligorov said the expected delay of up to two years before a definitive ruling was too long.

The result could be a destabilisation of Macedonia, bringing about a war in the former Yugoslav republic which might drag in neighbouring countries, he warned.

Mr. Gligorov called on Greece's European partners to put pressure on Athens to end the embargo imposed five months ago. He did not specify how but noted that the European Union gave enormous financial aid to

Greece.

By refusing to allow goods to and from landlocked Macedonia to pass through its ports Greece aims to force its neighbour to change the country's name, flag and constitution.

Athens says it should have exclusive use on the "Greek" symbols on the Macedonian flag and on the name of Macedonia, borne by Greece's northern province, and accuses Skopje of expansionist aims.

Mr. Gligorov said he was prepared to discuss all the points at issue, but accused Greece of continually setting preconditions. He dismissed the accusations of territorial ambitions by his country as absurd, saying it had practically no army.

He also questioned if it was reasonable to demand a change in the name of a country or people.

Mr. Gligorov said there was already trouble on Macedonia's border with Serbia.

Li Peng defends Tiananmen

VIENNA (AP) — Chinese Prime Minister Li Peng on Friday defended the bloody repression of the pro-democracy movement on Tiananmen Square in 1989 as "inevitable" to guarantee the nation's stability.

Mr. Li, who ends his official visit to Austria on Sunday, said in an interview with the Austrian news agency APA: "In 10 or 20 years you will see that these measures were inevitable to guarantee the stability of China and peace in the world, and that we were forced to take them."

But similar political violence nationwide, which claimed thousands of black lives in recent years, has decreased dramatically since Inkatha decided to take part in South Africa's first all-race election in April.

The ANC won the vote to head the first post-apartheid government, while Inkatha finished third and won enough votes for some cabinet seats in President Nelson Mandela's unity government.

An attack last week on a house near the Inkatha-dominated hostel killed four youths believed to have been linked to the ANC militia in Tokoza, southeast of Johannesburg. It occurred the night before a planned peace meeting of all such militia or protection groups in the region, and officials said the attack was unlikely to dissipate quickly, despite peace efforts by the new ANC-led government.

Despite the relative calm nationwide since the vote, criminal violence and some political fighting have occurred in some squalid townships. Deep-seated animosity between rival groups is Tokoza and other places is Inkatha and other places was unlikely to dissipate quickly, despite peace efforts by the new ANC-led government.</p

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Logic to border talks

THERE IS logic to the agreement between Jordan and Israel on moving negotiations on their border dispute to the area. Having decided to enter into serious negotiations on border demarcation, the two countries, by doing business as close as possible to the geographic areas around which the talks centre, could make them more realistic and fail safe. The bitter memories of past border issues between the two sides remain vivid in the minds of many Jordanians. During the Rhodes armistice talks many errors were committed simply because the venue of the negotiations was far removed from the geographic areas affected by them. Moreover, the negotiations between the two delegations would become so much more promising when held in the vicinity of the disputed frontiers. Suffice it to recall that whenever there are genuine controversies about any dimension of the border talks, a visit to the territory would no doubt shed additional light on which way the talks should be heading. It is one thing to examine border matters in abstractum and quite another to do it on the ground. Besides, there are no more justifications for the continuation of the complexities about dealing with Israel straight in the face and in the most forward manner possible. But having said that, the Jordanian delegation must continue to be wary about the real Israeli intentions of drawing the international border on their own terms. It is common knowledge that Israel does not offer anything or reject anything unless there is an ulterior motive behind it. Consequently, border rectification or adjustment between the two countries must be studied with maximum attention and care.

Perhaps it would be far-fetched to include parliament in the process of such negotiations but any changes on Jordan's historic borders must get the blessing of the people through a parliamentary process.

Then there is always the border issue between Jordan and the Palestinian self-rule area. It is doubtful that the bilateral Israeli-Jordanian border talks can be conducted in isolation from the Palestinian side as well, since the Palestinian self-rule territory would conceivably touch the international border line between Palestine during the British mandate and Jordan. The interconnection between Jordanian and Palestinian territorial interests makes it incumbent on Israel to deal with the two parties concurrently. Granted that the Palestinian self-rule course has yet to acquire definitive shape or form, still the parties concerned need to put before them as well the impact of any future agreement on any Palestinian boundary lines in the region.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

WITH THE return of Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat to his homeland, the Palestinians have taken the first step towards regaining their homeland and establishing their statehood, said Al Ra'i daily Saturday. The Palestinians have suffered for a long time and the forces of evil and aggression have joined forces in conspiracies against them for so many years, said the daily. Since the beginning of the 20th century, the Palestinians have been suffering from Israeli occupation for 27 years, with many of them living in camps after having been displaced from their hometowns, said the paper. In the face of the atrocities committed daily by the Israeli authorities, the Palestinians had no alternative but to resort to armed struggle to ensure their freedom. Al Ra'i daily said we watched the Palestinians welcoming home their leaders we felt proud of the sacrifices they offered to achieve liberation, and our spirits rose with the flapping of the Palestinian flags hung everywhere in Palestinian lands, the paper continued. The enthusiastic welcome accorded to Mr. Arafat reflects the Palestinian people's yearning for peace and stability in their homeland, said the paper. It said Mr. Arafat's return could make the beginning of the long march towards independence.

A COLUMNIST in Al Dustour urged Jordanian political parties to do more than talk for helping end the U.N. imposed sanctions against Iraq. Taher Al Adwan said that many of Jordan's parties have some sort of connection with Syria, which is in a position to influence Arab Gulf states and other countries into ending the embargo on Iraq. Syria is a good neighbour within the Arab League and has long borders with Iraq, which remain close for more than 14 years. But if the relations were strained between Damascus and Baghdad over side issues, they ought to improve under the present situation, which requires a show of solidarity between Arab people in the two countries, especially as the Iranian face starvation and continued sufferings, said the

Sunday's Economic Pulse

By Dr. Fahed Fanek

The peace dividend; what not to expect

THE ECONOMIC impact of peace on Jordan will definitely be positive, but we should not exaggerate the benefits or expect too much. Some factors will place limitations on most economic benefits that may accrue to Jordan as a result of peace with Israel.

The economic benefits of peace that are usually pointed out are the results of: The flow of foreign investments, the access to the West Bank market, the freedom of movement of labour and capital, the recovery of a fair share of the water of Yarmouk and Jordan rivers and the boom in tourism.

As far as foreign investments are concerned, little is expected due to the heavy external indebtedness amounting to some \$7 billion, forming 134 per cent of the gross domestic product (GDP). The limit for creditworthiness of a country is generally agreed to be less than 75 per cent of its GDP. Under the circumstances, foreign investors may not like to come in unless Jordanian indebtedness was somehow reduced to below the level of 75 per cent of GDP, which means that at least \$3 billion of Jordanian debts should be written off to make Jordan attractive to prudent foreign direct investors. Will peace bring about this debt reduction? It is a question which is still open for speculation. U.S. President Bill Clinton's commitment to extend debt relief to Jordan is too vague to be convincing to foreign investors.

The growth of trade and exports to the new growing markets of the West Bank and Gaza Strip is severely limited by harsh barriers imposed by Israel as expressed in the recent economic accord, reached in Paris on April 29, between Israel and the PLO. This means that Jordan should renegotiate these limitations with Israel with a view to obtaining full access to the West Bank market on equal basis with Israeli access. But will Jordan succeed in this endeavour? This is another question which remains open for the time being.

It is not yet known which direction will the movement of labour and capital through the bridges take. Will a large number of people and displaced families take up the

opportunity to return to the West Bank and Gaza? Some analysts suggest that the opposite may take place in view of the 48 per cent rate of unemployment, bad living conditions and lack of security in the occupied territories which may aggravate the economic and demographic situation in Jordan through the influx of more refugees. In any case, a huge movement of people will carry a high cost of adjustment on both sides of the river. Will peace give rise to massive movement of people and capital eastwards or westwards? This is another unknown which Jordan can, but is not likely to do something about it.

True, Jordan is in dire need for water. Jordan is now living under the line of poverty if not the starvation line of water. Lifting objections against Al Wahda Dam on Yarmouk River, and giving the go-ahead signal for its financing and construction will be a small but welcome step, but will Israel agree to give Jordan back its full rights in the water of the Jordan River? And, equally important, will Syria give Jordan its fair share in the water of Yarmouk River? Will peace bring back to Jordan its water which was seized by the two states?

It is also believed that hundreds of thousands of tourists will flow into Aqaba and Petra. That is the good news. The bad news is the fact that most of them will be one-day visitors which makes the expected income from tourists less than enough to offset the environmental costs involved.

There will be peace dividend but it may be a meagre one. It takes plenty of understanding, vision and political will to benefit economically from peace. Unfortunately those qualities are in short supply.

In conclusion, the historical deal, which we are about to strike, must be good on its own merits from a national and political view points. The economic sweetener is not sweet enough to justify political concessions. Short of full land recovery, recognised borders, meaningful security guarantees, water rights and the right of return of the displaced Palestinians, Jordan should not sign a peace treaty or normalise economic and political relations with Israel.

M. KAHIL



Arafat in Gaza: Stallions, donkeys and other symbols

By Rami G. Khouri

Editor's note: The following piece by Jordan Times columnist Rami G. Khouri was published in the Los Angeles Times Saturday

IT WAS, in the end, a spectacle in which symbols mattered as much as substance. In Yasser Arafat's return to Palestine Friday, after 27 years in exile leading the Palestinian struggle for national rights, the symbols spoke much of the pending reality of precarer politics, and less of the relish and zest of national triumph.

The symbols are glaring in their awkwardness for Palestinians. He had to secure detailed Israeli approval for the timing and manner of his return to Palestine. He had to postpone his symbolically charged visit to Jerusalem. He travelled from an Egypt caught in the grip of stifling domestic tension, while his relations with other key Arab states remain tense and erratic. He entered a Palestinian homeland plagued by the legacy of Israeli occupation, ravaged by socio-economic distress, and humiliated by the harsh reality that Palestinians enjoy only partial authority on small bits of their land, and that only with explicit Israeli ratification. He travels in a Palestine pockmarked by hundreds of Jewish settlements enjoying Israeli extraterritorial sovereignty. He faces serious challenges within the Palestinian community, from progressive, republican-minded activists on the centre and left to Islamists on the right. And he wanders the world as he always has, seeking not so much diplomatic support as hard cash to pay his guards, pals, and employees.

He returned to Palestine this week riding not a shiny

limp diplomatic donkey. Nevertheless, for those in the Arab World, including myself, who support the Arafat/Fatah political approach and the Arab-Israeli peace process now underway, Arafat represents something far more important than the sum of the petty humiliations that he and his people endure.

Leftists, "nationalists" and Islamists from the full spectrum of Palestinian and Arab politics have vehemently opposed both the Madrid peace process launched in 1991 and the Oslo accord signed in 1993—but they have been stunningly ignored by the majority of Arab people and governments as either irrelevant or unrealistic. The Arab and Israeli majorities have spoken out clearly for a continuation of the peace process, despite its flaws, imbalances and mutual compromises. Arafat's return home represents the culmination of the first and easiest phase of peace making.

The second phase will require significantly more demanding and potentially hazardous domestic political battles, within both Palestine and Israel, as Friday's symbols clearly affirmed: Israeli police clashed with rightwing Israeli settlers, while

Arafat's homecoming speech was top-heavy with olive branches to his domestic opponents (especially Hamas), and to his once-and-potential Arab financiers and diplomatic supporters. He will use his considerable political skills and his control of his suddenly rejuvenated political patronage and Palestinian finances to keep delivering on the high expectations and hazy promises of the peace process—greater Palestinian political autonomy, ending the Israeli occupation, rising living standards for Palestinians, i.e. peace, freedom and prosperity.

In his case, he is likely, Yeltsin-like, to accept just enough democratic pluralism to attract Western aid and prevent a domestic crisis, while providing the strong, centralised, top-heavy leadership that is consistent with Arab political culture and that may be required to assure stability, attract investments, and prod significant and speedy socio-economic progress.

Arafat's great challenge now is not to make the transition from guerrilla fighter to statesman; it is, rather, to make the transition from a political operative on a global stage to a political operative on a local stage. No wonder that his homecoming speech in Gaza sounded less like the triumphalist oratorical zenith of a historical figure, and more like the acceptance speech of a political party presidential candidate trying to rally his forces for the partisan battles that lie ahead. Arafat's return essentially marked the end of the Arab-Israeli conflict, and the start of a dramatic new era of ideological struggle and development challenges that will be played out—in the coming decade at least—within the countries of the Levant, instead of among them.

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The case for Arafat

By Ludwig W. Tamari

THE SIGNING of the Oslo accord in September was hailed by almost everyone in the international community as a diplomatic triumph for the Palestinians and the peace loving people in the world. The appearance of PLO leader Yasser Arafat in Washington was enough to convince even the most sceptical observers that a new era was dawning in the Middle East, that now there was a real chance for peace in the region.

But with this victory comes a stark realisation. The Palestinian people cannot defeat Israel by force of arms. That vision, cloaked in the blood of Israelis, Arabs, and Palestinians alike, has been buried forever. Good riddance. Arafat, the national leader, whatever his faults, has committed his people to living side-by-side with the Israelis in the land of Palestine. This long national struggle has not ended, it is just beginning. Should we criticise Arafat now, because he has not single-handedly recreated the world we knew in 1948? Because he is unable to reverse the hand of time? Because things as they were no longer are—but should be? What a delusion.

Yasser Arafat is the one being made answerable and accountable for Palestinian actions by the world community, not his critics. He is the one who has made the promise to deliver peace. And his critics and detractors should understand that Arafat has taken a great risk in doing so.

It is time to end his fractious debate, between those who are Arafat's critics and those who support him. Arafat need not remain alone and lonely at the apex of the Palestinian national movement. Arafat should abandon the illusion that he and he alone can manage the newly created realities. Arafat should note that the criticism of the intellectuals and the business community is given in good faith and those who took to criticise the Oslo accord (like Dr. Sharabi, Haidar Abdul Shafi, Edward Said and many others) have a role to play in the new Palestinian entity. Arafat should accept their challenge by inviting their participation in the realisation of the world's newest state. I am sure to their word and all of us will be proud of their contribution.

At this stage it is almost immoral not to sympathise with Arafat. He is the person, after all, who signed the Oslo accord and who now must deliver on the promises it contained. Nor is there any doubt that the PLO leader is sometimes forced to act undemocratically—and that he makes decisions that few of us agree with.

It is easy, in the name of democracy, to call on others to build barricades against Arafat. But we should make no mistake about what is at stake here. The call for a strong stand against Arafat is a call for deepening the rift between the PLO leader and the people. It will pit Palestinian against Palestinian again.

I am a realist and so is Chairman Arafat. Palestinians who live in the West Bank and Gaza Strip have suffered under Israeli intransigence even before 1967. The Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza and not us—the intellectuals, the businessmen, those in America and Europe—are the ones who led the intifada, who fought incessantly to throw off the yoke of Israel, who paid exorbitant taxes to their occupiers.

Whatever the answer to our current problems, our future lies in winning the battle for peace. The time for sacrifice by blood is over, the time for a new sacrifice—of reconciliation—is beginning. Right now, Palestine—the nation-to-be—is in dire need of international funds. There are literally thousands of people in the West Bank and Gaza without visible means of support. The hope for their future is being dimmed while we endlessly debate the usefulness of what Oslo has wrought. The next generation of Palestinians is being embittered and impoverished by our endless niggling and our infinite ability to exchange volleys of criticism. It is time for the Palestinians to step down from their pedestal of armed struggle as a continuous process and look at the realities of the present situation.

It is time for us to realise that there is only one alternative and one option, and that is the one presented to us by Arafat the leader—peace.

The writer is a Jordanian-Palestinian businessman based in Maryland, U.S.A.

that could be claimed by the PLO alone or the armchair strategists in the drawing rooms of the world's capitals. The signing of the Oslo accord was nothing less than an apology for the injustice of 1948.

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To the critics I should add that it is not what you say that is as important as how you say it. The continual hammering on Arafat must cease. Those who criticise have a responsibility to provide an alternative. So far, they have not done so. Arafat is not free from mistakes, but he is the leader of the PLO and the symbol of Palestinian nationalism.

As a practical matter, the criticism of Arafat is a reflection of the deep divisions in our own society—between those who condone, moderate, and immediately bind the Republic of Democracy, been patient, the attacks persuade like.

There are in the ranks, deep cultural moderates, abortion, school prayer. But as far as the to that, the moderates, immediate bind the Republic of Democracy, been patient, the attacks persuade like.

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Features

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As a practical matter, the criticism of Arafat is a reflection of the deep divisions in our own society — between those who received our revolution from the outside of the territories, and those who fought for it on the inside. They ought to be a way to read a conciliation between the two.

Whatever the answer to our current problems, the future lies in winning the battle for peace. The time for sacrifice by blood is over, the time for a new sacrifice — of righting what is beginning — righting Palestine — the nation that is — is in dire need of international funds. The international funds are literally thousands of people in the West Bank and Gaza without a means of support. The hope for their future is being dimmed while endlessly debate the usefulness of what Oslo has wrought. The next generation of Palestinians is being embittered and impoverished by our endless railing and our infinite ability to exchange volleys of criticism. It is time for the Palestinians to step down from their pedestal as a armed struggle and look at the realities of the present situation.

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The writer is a Jordanian Palestinian businessman, based in Maryland, U.S. He contributed the above article to the Jordan Times.

West prepares for peace, Balkans for war

By Alison Smale
The Associated Press

SARAJEVO — As the world unfurls yet another Balkan peace plan, Bosnia and Croatia bristle with evidence that war is about to flare with fresh fury.

Three years into fighting that has claimed more than 200,000 lives, diplomats and U.N. officials are deeply sceptical that any side wants peace.

In Bosnia, a 3-week-old truce is being broadly ignored. The government is talking belligerently of defeating the Serbs and the Serbs promise a counteroffensive. In Croatia, Serb-Croat talks have collapsed and brought the foes back to the brink of war.

Serious fighting could spell the end of the NATO presence in Bosnia's U.N. force, and call the whole peacekeeping mission into question.

Ironically, a deal that ended nearly a year of Muslim-Croat fighting in Bosnia may mean more war.

The government has moved 15 brigades of fighting Croats to face the Serbs in northern Bosnia, a senior U.N. source said. In Sarajevo, government forces have dug new trenches to build on their infantry advantage.

The new federation also has meant small arms and ammunition are pouring in through Croatia, said the U.N. source, who insisted on anonymity.

New arms and pinpoint successes against the Serbs have emboldened the government, the victim for much of the 26-month war. Moreover, the U.S.-backed Muslim-Croat federation appears to be functioning. Tension remains high, but leaders unexpectedly have allowed one another's hard-liners into the federation government. Bosnian army commander General Rasm Delic is openly urging a joint effort by the federation and Croatia proper against the Serbs. In Bosnia, Serbs hold about 70 per cent of

the territory. In Croatia, they control about a third.

"Until now, we have waged a defensive war," Gen. Delic said. "Now, we are moving to... a war for liberation."

Gen. Delic appears on Bosnian TV at the front lines with his forces. In Sarajevo, everybody talks of fighting to regain lost land.

U.N. officials say Bosnian government troops have done more than Serbs to violate a June 10 truce that was supposed to usher in a peace plan offered by U.S., Russian and European negotiators.

"The only way is the military defeat of the Serb aggressor," Gen. Delic told the Croatian daily Vecernji List. "I think this is also the only way for Croatia to get what it needs, a united Croatia in its internationally recognised borders."

Serbs and Croats agreed in March to end their 1991 war over Croatian independence. But talks on the details collapsed and relations now are at ground zero.

Croatian President Franjo Tudjman sees that Slobodan Milosevic, the powerful Serbian president, cannot or will not force Serbs in Croatia to settle. At the same time he is under domestic pressure to make progress on re-integrating Serb-held land. Attacking the Serbs would be popular.

U.S. ambassador to Croatia Peter Galbraith has publicly warned against it, suggesting economic sanctions eventually will ruin the Serbs.

Croatia should not take unilateral action with "a high risk of failure," he said at Zagreb University. Decisions to fight, "have to be based on cold, hard political analysis, not on emotion."

But logic does not rule in the Balkans. Croatia has been arming despite a weapons embargo, and now reportedly has 16 MiG jet fighters.

On June 20, a MiG screeched over Zagreb airport, its pilot wagging wings and turning rolls in a display of the machismo that could yet drive much more bloodshed.



U.N. soldiers accompany an aid convoy in Bosnia (AFP photo)

UNHCR says money shortage threatens Bosnia aid

By Philippe Naughton
Reuter

GENEVA — The United Nations refugee agency warned Friday that funding shortages could bring its relief convoys to a halt by the end of this month.

Separately, a spokesman for the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) said it was becoming increasingly concerned about the Bosnian Muslim enclave of Bihać, cut off from U.N. aid since May because of a blockade by Serbs in neighbouring Croatia.

The agency said high commissionaire Sadako Ogata was to send major donor governments a letter on Friday urgently appealing for at least \$50 million to get through the summer months.

commissionaire Sadako Ogata was to send major donor governments a letter on Friday urgently appealing for at least \$50 million to get through the summer months.

The UNHCR is the lead humanitarian agency in former Yugoslavia, where it looks after some four million people, most of them in Bihać.

Although an upsurge in commercial traffic to the region has eased some of the pressure on the agency, millions still rely on the U.N. aid effort.

So far in 1994, the UNHCR has received only \$42.5 million in new donations, compared with \$200 million at the same time last year, the agency said in a statement.

Its total budget in former Yugoslavia this year is \$338 million, but it is facing a shortfall of some \$200 million.

In the letter to donors, Mr. Ogata wrote: "I am concerned that due to the summer recess in donor capitals we may not receive contributions until the month of September, unless funds are contributed shortly.

"This would oblige me to halt the humanitarian assistance programme in the former Yugoslavia, severely affecting the well-being of refugees and displaced persons."

A UNHCR spokesman, Ron Redmond, said the UNHCR was also worried about the northwestern enclave of Bihać.

The UNHCR has traditionally taken supplies to the Bihać pocket, home to about 200,000 Bosnian Muslims, through adjoining areas of Croatia held by ethnic Serbs since 1991.

But Mr. Redmond said Serbs in the so-called Krajina enclave have not allowed any convoys through since May, forcing the U.N. to cancel around 70 aid convoys and causing a severe shortage of staple foods.

The Bihać pocket is currently the scene of fighting between forces loyal to local Muslim leader Fikret Abdić, who has declared independence from Sarajevo, and the Muslim-led Bosnian government army.

Mr. Redmond said the Krajina Serbs — who U.N. officials said on Thursday were providing Abdić with weapons — had not given a reason for their blockade and UNHCR officials had so far been unable to persuade them to lift it.

He added: "We have asked the Bosnian Serb authorities in Pale to get the Krajina Serbs to cooperate but we have had no success."

Democrats pound away at 'radical right'

By John King
The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Listen to Democrats these days, from President Bill Clinton on down, and it would appear that the Republican Party has changed its name to the radical party.

There certainly are deep fissures in the Republican ranks, deepest among them the differences between cultural conservatives and moderates over issues like abortion, gay rights, and school prayer.

But with the outcome of that debate still uncertain, and other dynamics about the fall elections still unclear, Democrats are spending much of their time trying to paint Republicans as a party controlled by far-right radicals.

Mr. Clinton himself took issue recently with those he said "come into the political system and then say that anybody who doesn't agree with them is godless, anyone who doesn't agree with them is not a good Christian."

Some disillusioned Republicans have aided the Democrats' attacks on Republican radicals.

The Republican split will be an issue in many campaigns this fall, as Democrats try to put Republicans in awkward spots.

"It can motivate some of our people to vote," said Mr. Wilhelm.

Many Republicans predict that intra-party tensions will work themselves out. But many Democrats, and some Republicans as well, aren't so sure.

Stanley Greenberg, a Democratic pollster, said one in three Republicans feels alienated from the party because of the rising influence of Christian conservatives.

Mr. Kean's blunt remarks earned him just two of the 1,349 votes cast at Iowa's 1996 presidential straw poll, obvious evidence of the influence Christian conservatives have in many state Republican parties.

Because of that, many

public leader Bob Dole in a television interview.

Not so, say the Democrats.

"We want to compete for the votes of people of faith," said Democratic National Committee Chairman David Wilhelm. "What we take issue with is the suggestion that one group's political views are ordained by God and that all others are unChristian."

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"This obviously helps

Democrats, but it is not just a tactic or strategy on our part," Mr. Greenberg said.

"The Christian right stuff is underscoring a fault line in the Republican party that is fundamental."

In other developments:

Palestinian broadcasting corporation radio went on the air for the first time Saturday beaming test programmes of classical Arabic music out of a studio in Jericho.

Brothers and sisters all over Palestinian land, this is the voice of Palestine," the speaker announced as broadcasting began mid-afternoon on medium wave at a frequency of 702 kilohertz.

Right-wing Israeli staged a protest against Mr. Arafat's visit, holding a sabbath prayer Saturday in Jerusalem.

Heavily guarded by hundreds of police deployed throughout the old walled city, about 4,000 men and boys in dark pants and white shirts swayed as they recited afternoon prayers at the western wall.

Some residents said they were disappointed he had not stopped to talk and shake hands.

His adviser Nabil Shaath said Mr. Arafat was ecstatic about the trip and his reception in his homeland.

"He is in a state of euphoria. He has been traveling all day (Friday) but I don't see any effect of the fatigue on him," said Dr. Shaath.

Palestinian official Saeb Erakat said Mr. Arafat would visit Jericho on Monday for the swearing in of the 24-member Palestinian authority that will run the autonomy.

Mr. Arafat is expected to leave for France on Tuesday.

He is to meet Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin in Paris in Wednesday.

It is onnippotent...

with our own simple abilities,

with our hunger and anguish

and pain, we will build this

authority... our road is hard

and the challenge is to be or

not to be."

The PLO chief said Palestinians would have to rely on their own meager resources which must face the monumental task of rebuilding the decayed infrastructure of impoverished Gaza and Jericho.

Many of Jabalya's refugees

turned out for a glimpse of

the leader most had never

seen. But Mr. Arafat, for the

second consecutive day, did

not move among them.

He emerged from a high-speed motorcade and was whisked away by bodyguards, ever nervous of assas-

sination attempts.

Some residents said they

were disappointed he had

not stopped to talk and

shake hands.

His adviser Nabil Shaath

said Mr. Arafat was ecstatic

about the trip and his reception

in his homeland.

"He is in a state of euphoria.

He has been traveling all day (Friday)

but I don't see any effect of the fatigue on him," said Dr. Shaath.

Palestinian official Saeb

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Shortly after Mr. Arafat died,

attention turned to his

younger brother Bashir,

a soldier and a doctor.

World Bank cuts back on new loans

WASHINGTON (R) — The World Bank said Friday it cut back sharply on new loans in the past fiscal year as developing nations in Latin America and southern Asia were able to turn to the private sector for money.

The international lending organisation said it promised \$20.8 billion in new loans in the fiscal year that ended June 30 — down from \$23.7 billion the previous year.

"In the past year, the availability of private capital to developing countries has expanded considerably," it said. "This has contributed to a sharp drop in adjustment lending as countries have not required (as much) balance of payments support from the bank."

World Bank President Lewis Preston welcomed the news. As developing countries have succeeded in reforming their economies, they've been able to turn to the international markets and private sector for money — sources of finance once closed to them.

Much of the drop in World Bank loans occurred in South Asia and Latin America. New loan commitments for the latter fell to \$4.7 billion from \$6.1 billion.

"Because many Latin American countries have successfully moved beyond the adjustment phases, there were few large bank loans (for that purpose)," the World Bank said.

New loans for South Asia dropped to \$2.4 billion from \$3.4 billion. The region benefited from a substantial influx of private capital, allowing it to cut back on its borrowing from the bank.

"India... continued with its reform programme, but the strengthening of its foreign reserves meant that it did not need to rely on quick disbursing loans from the bank," the lending organisation said.

Lending for the Middle East Africa also fell, to \$1.2 billion from \$1.8 billion. The drop reflected reduced lending to Algeria, because of its domestic economic difficulties, and to Egypt, which tapped other sources for aid.

The World Bank said it promised African nations \$2.8 billion in new loans in 1993-94, the same as the year before. Lending,

Egypt to sell state-owned company shares on bourse

CAIRO (R) — Egypt, raising the pace of its slow-moving privatisation programme, aims to offer shares in two major state-owned firms to private investors later this month, officials said Saturday.

The shares will be the first government stock to be sold off on the Cairo Stock Exchange under the government's World Bank and IMF-backed economic reform programme.

Brokers, itching for new stock issues to revive the near-dormant bourse, have welcomed the promised sales but say the two companies offer mixed investment opportunities.

The officials said the government planned to sell two million shares in Ameriya Cement Company, with a nominal value of five Egyptian pounds (\$1.47) and 250,000 shares in Paints and Chemicals Industries, at a nominal value of 100 pounds (\$33.9).

The sales are being handled by two separate holding companies responsible for preparing hundreds of state-owned firms for privatisation and overseeing their transfer into private ownership.

"The (Ameriya) offer will go ahead in the second half of July," an official at the Holding Company for Metallurgical Industries said. "The date will be fixed in the next 10 days."

An official at the Holding Company for Chemical Companies said the Paints and Chemical Industries sale was also due to take place before the end of July.

So far, the few sales of shares in government-owned stock have involved direct sales of entire companies to international investors, or

Christopher outlines ambitious U.S. global economic agenda

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — Secretary of State Christopher says President Clinton is advancing "the most ambitious international economic agenda" for the United States in nearly 50 years, and will concentrate on "ratification of the Uruguay Round and initiatives to open new markets in Latin America and Asia."

Testifying before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Christopher placed this issue at the top of the list of challenges which the administration will be addressing in its future agenda.

He said the others include:

— "An expanded NATO that advances the integration and security of a wider Europe."

transfers of blocks of shares to workers' consortia known as Employee Shareowner Associations.

Brokers, who hope the privatisation programme will help the Cairo bourse emerge as a vibrant financial market after 40 years in the doldrums, expect the paint company shares to be priced at between 150 and 200 pounds (\$44.2 to \$59.0).

"That would be a very fair value... it looks like a good bet," said broker Amr Hossny of Triple A Securities.

But investors are withholding judgment on shares of the debt-ridden Ameriya Cement, which the holding company says will be priced at 27 to 30 pounds, until the government announces an expected restructuring of its finances.

"As of July 1993, Ameriya was in debt to the tune of 600 million pounds (\$177 million). Until we know what happens to the debts, its stock is going to be a speculative investment," said one broker who declined to be named.

The Ameriya shares earmarked for sale represent a quarter of the company's total stock, while the two million shares in Paints and Chemical Industries make up just 10 per cent of the 20 million shares held by the holding company.

Public Sector Minister Atef Obeid last month said Egypt's privatisation process had exceeded the targets set for it by the World Bank, and promised further acceleration in sales.

"From July 10 you will see announcements inviting people to buy stocks every day, every month," he said, likening the process to an unstoppable express train.

Christopher outlined an ambitious U.S. global economic agenda

— "A comprehensive peace in the Middle East, with Israel secure and fully integrated in the region's political and economic life."

— "A strong non-proliferation regime, including indefinite extension of the NPT, a comprehensive Test Ban Treaty and a ratified Chemical Weapons Convention."

— "A United Nations better able to respond effectively and rapidly to crises."

— "An Africa in which an increasing number of democracies cooperate to resolve conflicts and achieve sustainable development;" and

— "International action on population and global climate change."

Fund seeks easier terms to boost Arab trade

ABU DHABI (R) — The Arab World's main trade finance programme is relaxing its credit terms and linking Arab exporters and importers to try to shore up flagging inter-Arab trade, its chairman has said.

Jassem Al Manai, head of the Arab Trade Finance Programme (ATFP), said inter-Arab trade — about eight per cent of total Arab trade — was stymied by poor productive sectors and similarity in manufactured goods.

"Arab trade is so deficient mainly because the economic environment is unhealthy and we are not producing sophis-

ticated products," he told a news conference. "Arab economies produce mostly primary and intermediate products which resemble other Arab productive sectors."

He said Arab countries starting with Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Tunisia, Egypt and Jordan will be linked in a database network at the Arab Monetary Fund (AMF) before the end of this year to match importers and exporters.

"We are trying to fill the information vacuum about what goods Arab countries have available to trade," he said.

The Arab Monetary Fund, the Arab World's main financial institution, set up the ATFP in 1990 to develop Arab economies by financing their non-oil trade with each other.

Last year the ATFP issued credit lines to four countries less than half of about 20 Arab League countries it is supposed to be reaching through the programme.

Mr. Manai said he hoped relaxing credit terms would be one way to bring more Arab countries into the programme.

"The board agreed to reconsider its terms to be more

flexible. It is considering lightening the interest rates which will differ according to the time period," Mr. Manai said.

He did not give figures. It was the second time this year the ATFP has met on revising its credit terms.

The ATFP currently offers credits at a rate of one-eighth per cent above the London interbank offered rate on finance terms up to 60 months. It has also eased other conditions.

The ATFP's 1993 annual report showed it approved \$94 million of \$139 million in finance requested.

Of the \$55 million paid in 1993 about half went to Algeria, Morocco received \$13 million, Oman \$10 million and Saudi Arabia \$4 million, the report said.

From January to May 1994 the fund has already approved \$72 million in credit lines, an ATFP statement said.

Abdul Rahman Taha, trade finance department director, told reporters that fund has received 14 requests for financing so far this year and he expected total financing requested to almost double to \$220 million by the end of 1994.

Kuwait told to cut budget despite price rise

China blasts 'capital games' of foreign investors

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait should remain committed to cut state spending to curb its Gulf war-inflated budget deficit despite a recent rise in oil prices, an economic consultancy said Saturday.

"It is hoped that the ministry of finance and the government are not influenced by any short term rises in the oil market," Al Shall Consultancy said in a weekly communiqué.

"We welcome foreign businessmen's investment in China and will protect their lawful rights and interests," the official People's Daily said. "But we will absolutely not allow foreign businessmen to seek exorbitant profits, to violate our country's laws, or to use all sorts of illegitimate means to extract (profits)."

The article, entitled "capital games and profit leaks," accused some foreign investors of using many fraudulent methods to deny China its rightful share of taxes and profits and to secretly spirit foreign currency abroad.

In one survey, the newspaper said, more than half the foreign-funded ventures had failed to pay in their full amount of registered capital.

Some foreign firms had jacked up the price of the equipment they put into the Chinese investment or used poor-quality machinery to artificially boost the size of their investment.

Some foreign ventures exaggerated their rate of dividend or the prices of the raw materials they used, the article said. Others padded their local expenses and shipped their finished goods back to head office at below cost.

The article admitted China's frenetic emphasis on foreign investment, as part of economic reform, had led to some of the abuses.

"In recent years, many places linked the number of established foreign-funded ventures with the achievements of local leaders, which gave rise to false enterprises," it said.

ing 100 million (\$338 million) in new revenue through new or increased fees on public services.

"The government will most likely take the path of least effort, which is to accept the ministry of finance's proposal," Al Shall commented.

Any spending cuts will be politically sensitive. Kuwaitis are accustomed to an all-enveloping welfare state that provides public services free or at minimal cost and government jobs for virtually all nationals who want one.

The deficit soared their Kuwait spent over half its foreign reserves on costs associated with the Gulf war, including a \$20 billion payment towards Operation Desert Storm, and further billions on oil sector repair and handouts to citizens.

The Supreme Planning Council's economic committee has said that without reforming the state-orchestrated economy the budget deficit would grow by almost 50 per cent by the year 2000 and the dinar could be seriously affected.

Al Shall also said that Kuwait lacked a timetable for its long-awaited privatisation programme and obstacles remained in the way of a key sale.

"In spite of the government's efforts the issue still lacks a declared, definite and scheduled programme, not even one relating to a single sector or group of companies," Al Shall said.

Officials began discussing privatising the state-dominated economy five years ago but have started few projects because of disruption caused by Iraq's 1990-91 occupation and uncertainty about the overall shape of economic reform.

Additional obstacles to marketing state assets include civil service overmanning.

Economists say the telecommunications sector is likely to be the first major state service due to be sold and a World Bank report on privatisation last year recommended the participation of

foreign operator in any new company.

Al Shall said the sale posed a major test.

Communications ministry officials themselves say the ministry is overmanaged by Kuwaitis and acknowledge this poses political problems for any potential sale.

"This sale might require about \$300 million, and a foreign partner might participate. Facing this major choice are some obstacles: The 40 per cent labour surplus — mainly local citizens (Kuwaitis) — weak management and legal structure and the potential political response," Al Shall said.

One fund, launched earlier this year to sell chunks of 39 KIA-owned firms, was believed to have had a lukewarm reception but no official statement on its performance results.

Applications for the 25 million dinar (\$82 million) first investment fund expired on May 30. On June 25 it won stock exchange approval but no date has been set for the listing.

A property company also launched a 20 million dinar (\$67.5 million) property fund open to Gulf Arabs and resident foreigners as a way of marketing KIA-owned property.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY JULY 3, 1994

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A day and evening when you can quietly study the imaginative reader which you would like to be associated with in the future. Show others that you have all the necessary skills and that you will use them wisely.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Try to understand the needs of mate and be more helpful than in the past. Take time for meditation early in the day and be less stressed out later.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Do whatever will make your position with friends more ideal. The evening can be happy from a social standpoint, especially with those of influence.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Plan how to get the most out of the coming week's activities and schedule them well. Take no risks with your reputation which could get damaged.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Get in touch with good friends and plan recreations far into the future. Express happiness with loved one above.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Make your home more harmonious by doing those things which will please family members. Make plans for the future and follow through with them.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Try to help a friend who is due to be born.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Contact a business expert and gain the advice you need at this time. Spend more time with the one you love in a romantic setting.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 19) Engage in those outside activities which could give you added prestige in your community. Do something for a close tie.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Conditions are not favourable in the morning, but happiness is in store for you later in the day. Study career matters to advance ahead.

Egypt requests U.S. military support

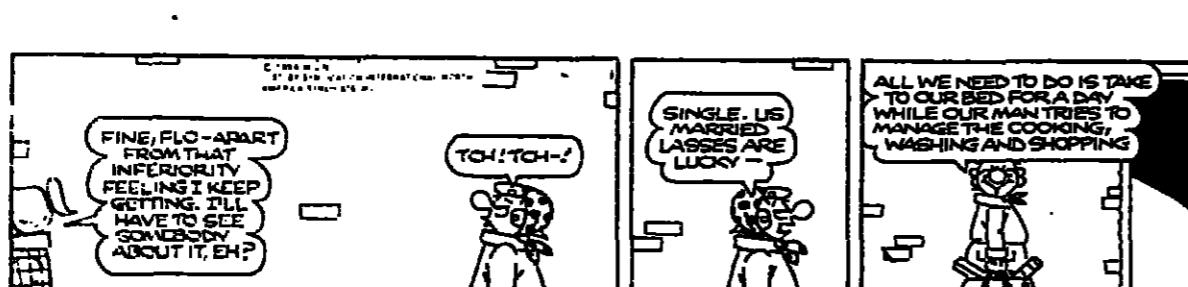
WASHINGTON (USA): The Department of Defense on June 23 released the following memorandum for correspondents:

The Department of Defense informed the Congress today the government of Egypt has requested the purchase of shipyard support services for the turnover and post transfer activities related to the lease of two Knox class frigates from the navy, and the rework, overhaul and upgrade of ten excess SH-2FLAMPS MK-1 anti-submarine warfare (ASW) helicopters to the SH-2G configuration. The estimated cost of the support services package is \$380 million.

Included in the support services contract would be test range services, 4,000 rounds of 5/54 ammunition (includes training and tracer rounds), 40,000 rounds of 20mm cartridges for the Phalanx Close-in Weapon System, chaff cartridges, sonobuoys and other related ammunition items, four spare helicopter engines, personnel training and training equipment, spare and repair parts, and

The SH-2F helicopters will be provided from navy stocks and will be transferred at no cost under the Southern Region Amendment.

Peanuts



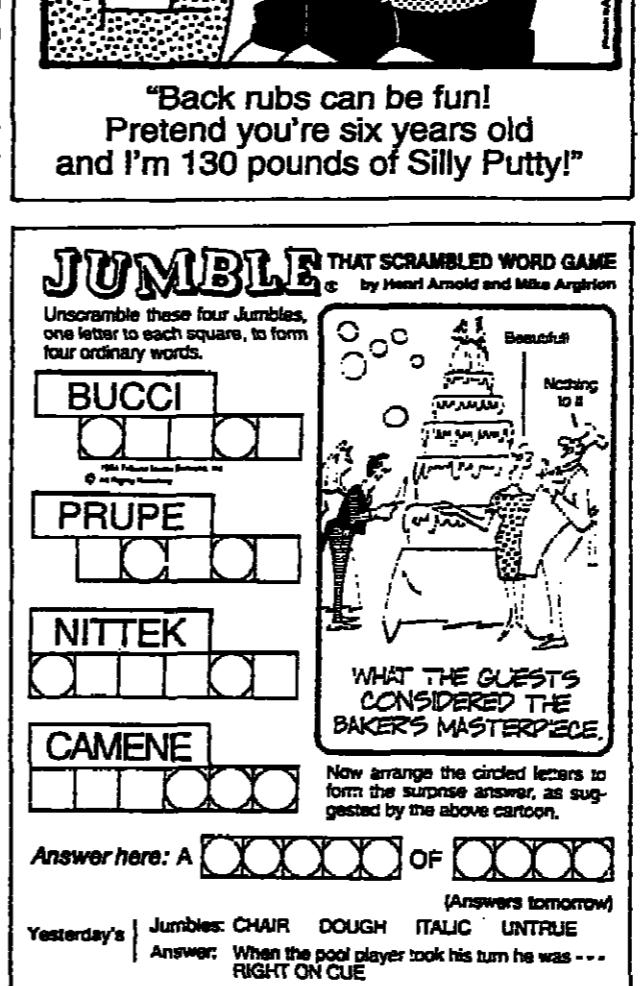
Andy Capp



Mutt 'n' Jeff



THE BETTER HALF, By Glasbergen



Dahlin: World Cup a 'fiasco' if Sweden lose to Saudis

DALLAS (R) — If Sweden lose to Saudi Arabia Sunday, then the World Cup is a farce, says the Scandinavians' top goalscorer Martin Dahlin.

The Swedes, semifinalists in the 1992 European Championship, are confident they already have a quarter-final berth booked after being paired with the World Cup debutants in the second round.

But Saudi Arabia, who only formed a national team in 1976, have proved masters of surprise by beating Belgium and Morocco and leading the Netherlands in their first round games.

But Dahlin, scorer of three goals in two games, predicts Sunday's second round in Dallas is as far as the Saudis will go.

"If we lose to Saudi Arabia, everybody will see the World Cup as a fiasco. We have to win. Everyone is expecting us to win."

Dahlin, who failed to score in the European Championship in Sweden but hit seven in World Cup qualifying and is on a scoring streak, will return to the side after missing the 1-1 draw

against Brazil through suspension.

Sweden remain one of only four unbeaten sides after the first round, which coach Tommy Svensson says has lifted the team and given them a momentum that should take them to a quarter-final meeting with Argentina or Romania.

"We made it difficult for Brazil, and if we can make it difficult for them, we can make it difficult for any other team," he said.

Before he knew his second round opponents, Svensson said: "If we meet them) Saudi Arabia will not be much of a contest. We are looking ahead and planning on going to the quarterfinals."

But the Saudis have proved formidable opponents for two European teams arguably better equipped than the Swedes.

In beating Morocco, they achieved the Asian confederation's second win at the finals, and the shock 1-0 triumph over Belgium made them Group F runners-up.

Their strength lies in the speed of their forwards, allied to their ball control,

which was demonstrated in the brilliant solo goal from Saeed Owairan against Belgium when he dribbled through the centre of their defence.

Their self-belief also belies their status in the soccer world, although seven of the squad were in the side that won the 1989 World Youth Championship.

Coach Jorge Solari, an Argentine drafted in four months ago when the Saudi royals who run the federation sacked their second coach in a year, boasted that he had predicted before the tournament they would finish second in their group.

And now he is predicting they will beat Sweden to become the first Arab nation to reach the World Cup quarterfinals.

"I told everyone we would take second place in our group," he said. "We've done what we promised even if it wasn't expected by too many other people."

"We will beat Sweden," he added.

The Saudis will have Faud Anwar, who scored against Morocco and the Dutch, back after suspensions.



Today's matches

Saudi Arabia vs. Sweden in Dallas at 20.05 Arman time. Argentina vs. Romania in Pasadena, Calif., at 23.05

Armenian time. While Sweden hope central defender Joachim Bjorklund will be back after missing the last match through injury.

Probable teams: Sweden: 1-Thomas Ravelji, 2-Roland Nilsson, 3-Patrik Andersson, 4-Joachim Bjorklund, 5-Roer Liung, 6-Stefan Schwarz, 8-Klas Ingesson, 9-Jonas Thern, 10-Kennet Andersson, 10-Martin Dahlin, 9-Tomas Brodin.

Saudi Arabia: 1-Mohammad Al Deayea, 4-Abdullah Sulaiman, 3-Mohammad Al Kulawi, 5-Ahmad Jamil Madani, 13-Mohammad Abdil Jawad, 6-Faud Anwar Amin, 8-Fahad Al Bish, 16-Talal Jabrin, 9-Majed Abdulla, 10-Saeed Owairan, 20-Hamza Saeed Falatah.

Germany eliminate Belgium

CHICAGO (R) — Bert Vogth's decision to call veteran Rudi Voeller out of retirement for the World Cup paid handsome dividends Saturday when he scored twice in Germany's 3-2 second round victory over Belgium.

The 34-year-old Voeller, playing his first full game of the finals, struck in the 36th and 39th minutes as the world champions lifted their game well above their performance in the group matches.

Juergen Klinsmann was Germany's other marksman in the 11th minute.

But it was Voeller's day in the Chicago rain.

Many people believed the Marseilles forward, who quit the international scene in October 1992, was too old and slow for the World Cup.

A few eyebrows were raised when coach Vogth called him into his squad at the last minute because of the shortage of talented young forwards in Germany.

But there was nothing wrong with Voeller's speed and sharpness when he pounced on a deflected pass from captain Lothar Matthaeus to give Germany an early lead.

The inspirational Voeller then set up the second. He fed Klinsmann on the left side of the penalty box and the Monaco fired home with his left foot.

"If he had really wanted to improve his performance he would have taken something else," Dr. Jacques Rogge told AFP from his home in Belgium.

"Those five substances

were not sufficient to make a substantial difference."

added the International Olympic Committee (IOC) medical commission's vice-president.

Argentina's World Cup captain was expelled from the World Cup when he failed a test which revealed five ephedrine-related drugs.

FIFA medical officials

stressed they had been unable to find any medicine

which contained all five drugs

in an apparent attempt to rule out the possibility he took it accidentally as part of

a cold or allergy remedy.

"We suppose it must be a cocktail," FIFA executive committee member Dr. Michel D'Hooghe of Belgium said.

D'Hooghe, who sat on the panel which heard the case, added on Thursday: "Some of the five banned substances are used in weight-reduction medication."

Maradona had shed 26 pounds in his fitness battle

and Rogge thought the drugs might have been taken as a conditioner.

Argentine soccer star Diego Maradona, before, Maradona was expelled from the World Cup after failing a drug test (AFP photo)

before arriving at Logan Airport in Boston Friday from Dallas, Texas. The day

Argentine expert defends Maradona

LOS ANGELES, California (AFP) — An Olympic drugs specialist has dismissed claims that Diego Maradona's dope test proved he had taken performance-enhancing substances.

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S. Arabia, Mexico usher in new tactical ideas

Whatever Basile decides to do, Romania are optimistic about victory. They have won both their matches at the Rose Bowl, including a win over Colombia, and have taken heart from Maradona's win Thursday.

Basile has to ensure his team do not allow Gheorghe Hagi to dominate the midfield for Romania as Hagi did against Colombia and the United States.

So he could also consider naming midfielder Hugo Perez as an extra midfielder, especially as Perez has a good long shot and likes joining the attack from deep positions.

Lineups:

Romania: 1-Florin Prunca 2-Dan Petrescu, 3-Daniel Prodan, 4-Mihaela Belodedici, 5-Ionel Lupescu, 6-Gheorghe Popescu, 7-Dorinel Munteanu, 13-Tiberi Seydel, 10-Gheorghe Hagi, 11-Lilie Dumitrescu, 21-Marian Ivan, 17-Viorel Moloven.

Argentina: 12-Luis Isaia 3-Jose Chamot, 6-Oscar Rugeri, 13-Fernando Caceres, 16-Herman Diaz, 5-Fernando Redondo, 18-Hugo Perez, 14-Diego Simeone, 20-Leonardo Rodriguez, 7-Arnaldo Ortega, 9-Gabriel Batistuta, 19-Abel Balbo, 21-Alejandro Mancuso. Referee: Pier-Luigi Pairetto (Italy)

with their skill, mobility, pace and tactics. The team closely followed coach Miguel Mejia Baron's plan for rotational positional changes with the onus on an individual ability to play soundly in several different roles.

"This is a victory for multi-functional soccer," said Baron after Mexico's well-deserved 1-1 draw with Italy in Washington Thursday. "We have a lot of players who play in different parts of the field. They are trained to play this way and it is the way for football in the future."

In the Mexican system, only a handful of the team play in traditional positions.

Striker Carlos Hermosillo plays as centre forward, but in a mobile modern way.

Left-winger Luis Alves "Zague" operates on only the left flank, but fills the roles of midfielder, winger and striker in the contemporary style, and stopper Juan Ramirez Perales plays like a traditional centre-back.

The rest move, constantly

in search of space or men to mark, in a manner reminiscent of the "total football" created by the Netherlands.

Mexico surprised them all

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Hill steals show from Mansell in French GP

MAGNY-COURS, France (R) — Briton Damon Hill stole the show from Williams teammate Nigel Mansell and world championship leader Michael Schumacher in Friday's final practice to claim pole position for Sunday's French Grand Prix.

With barely five minutes left in the session, Hill clocked a fastest time of one minute and 16.282 seconds to prevent his compatriot Mansell, the 1992 world champion, from staging a sensational comeback to Formula One.

Mansell, who has returned to Grand Prix driving for one race after 18 months on the Indycar circuit, led the way throughout the session before being ousted by Hill's last effort. He had to be content with 1:16.359 and second place.

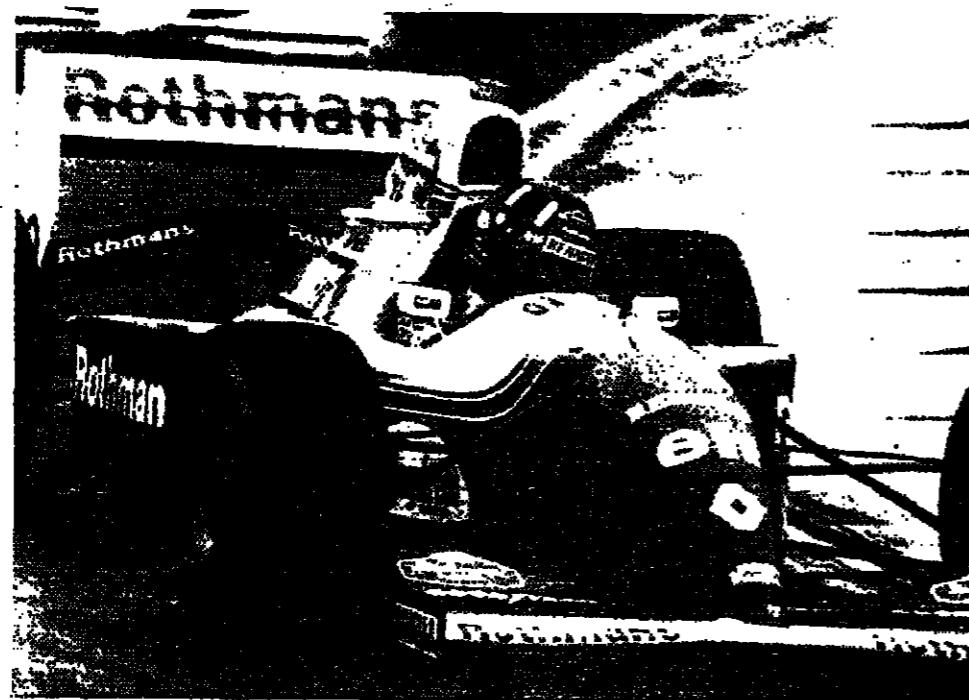
It was Hill's third pole position in his career and his second in succession at Magny-Cours.

It was a perfect day for Williams who relegated Schumacher to third place on the grid with his time of 1:16.707.

So impressive in blazing sunshine in the first session Friday, the 25-year-old German Benetton driver struggled on a grey and cloudy day Saturday.

He drove straight into a sand pit in the morning's free practice, damaging a deflector on his car, then had a spin. In the afternoon, he was never in a position to challenge the Williams.

There were yet more clouds for Benetton when their second driver, Dutchman Jos Verstappen, hit the fence lining the pit lane and lost both left tyres. One bounced over the fence, damaging timing equipment and forcing the session to be halted after 24 minutes.



Damon Hill

Far-flung venues make Cup travellers weary

WASHINGTON (AFP) — The most far-flung World Cup tournament ever has teams struggling to cope with unprecedented travel distances and lodging troubles.

Nine U.S. venues for the global football event stretch across 5,000 km (3,125 miles) from Boston in the northeast to San Francisco and Los Angeles in the West.

Adjusting to time changes and extensive plane travel has been difficult. In the first round, nine teams have lost after extended journeys.

Romanian coach Anghel Iordanescu blamed his side's 4-1 loss to the Swiss in Detroit on their journey from the U.S. west coast.

"We tried to find a place closer but everything was booked," Swiss Football Federation Vice President Guido Cornella said. "The team is able to stay together, but we have to send the reporters to a different hotel."

Swiss delegation leader

Carlo Lavizzari tried in vain to find rooms through World Cup organisers, but several members tried in the entourage said the rooms they found on their own were nicer and at a better cost.

Spain, the Swiss foes Saturday, stayed at a downtown hotel only a short distance from the stadium.

Some teams seemed to thrive on travel, however. Saudi Arabia shifted their base of operations from a rural college to downtown Washington, then responded by advancing to the second round.

"Changes in location do not matter," Saudi coach Jorge Solari said. "Our players are accustomed to playing in different places. They know they will have to travel."

NEWS IN BRIEF

McRae crashes in Argentina

CORDOBA, Argentina (AFP) — British driver Colin McRae and his navigator Derek Ringer both escaped serious injury here Friday, when their Subaru left the road in the Rally of Argentina and rolled over. Their car was moving at speed down a steep mountain road, considered one of the most dangerous sections of the second stage, when the accident happened. Although unscathed, the organisers said it was unclear whether McRae would be forced out of the race. The Scotsman had made a barnstorming start to the day, winning all four of the opening special sections and moving up from fifth place to fourth overall. Sources within the Subaru team told AFP that McRae was driving with a punctured tyre at the time of the accident.

Computer assisted football

can then work out the most frequent moves and hopefully counter them. The United States have never beaten Brazil in five attempts, and in their four games since 1976 have not even scored a goal. Should they do the unlikely and make the quarter-finals, they could thank partner Zvi Friedman and Jon Kotas who designed the software. The majority of players seemed to like the device, but coach Bora Milutinovic is sceptical.

"We tried to find a place closer but everything was booked," Swiss Football Federation Vice President Guido Cornella said. "The team is able to stay together, but we have to send the reporters to a different hotel."

Swiss delegation leader

McRae has been well travelled, catching matches involving 17 different teams at eight venues. But even he could not keep up, dropping one trip after Maradona's doping scandal became known.

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North-South vulnerable. West deals:

NORTH: ♦ Q 10 5 2
♦ 10 6 3
♦ Q 6 3 2
♦ 7 2

WEST: ♦ J 8 3
♦ K 9 7 6
♦ Q 9 8 5
♦ K 5 4
♦ K Q J 10 9 5 4 ♦ A 8 6

SOUTH: ♦ 2 4
♦ A K 7 4 2
♦ A K 10 8 5
♦ 3

The bidding: West North East South
3 ♦ Pass 4 ♦ 4 ♦
Pass Pass

Opening lead: King of ♦

West bridge is not a game of luck, but it is a game of chance. Nobody can know what South needed quite a size of it, as well as aces and cards needed to land this heart game.

Taking advantage of the vulnerability, East raised West's three-club preempt to four clubs. That posed a considerable problem for South, who had no way of showing the two-suited nature of the holding without bypassing four hearts. West was possibly the only valuable contractor. Double was out of the question because of the near certainty that North would bid spades. Four hearts was as good a bid as any.

West led the king of clubs and continued with the queen, ruffed in the closed hand. With a 3-2 trump break, all declarer would expect to bid would be one club. The suit was divided, so declarer was forced to cash the ace of trumps, on which West contributed the break. That meant there was a danger of a second trump loser.

Declarer solved the problem neatly. Abandoning trumps, declarer cashed the ace-queen of diamonds and cashed the ace of clubs, leaving the two spades.

Consider West's predicament. If the defender ruffed at any point, he would be trapped in an endplay. A heart lead away from the queen would surrender a trump trick; a club would allow South to discard the spade loser from hand while ruffing a diamond; and a spade would be directed to dummy's queen for the trifling trick.

East desperately tried to escape the inevitable by discarding two spades and a club, coming down to K in spades and Q 9 in trumps, but to no avail. Now declarer simply cashed the king of hearts and exited with a trump, conceding two tricks to the suit to East. At the end, the declarer had to lead away from the king of spades and the spade loser vanished. Beautiful!

Ezzoud wins Britain's Eclipse Stakes

SANDOWN, England (R) — Ezzoud beat off the challenge of two classic winners to give trainer Michael Stoute his second successive victory in the Eclipse Stakes Saturday.

The Mak Tack-owned horse took up the running inside the final two furlongs to win by one and a half lengths from last year's St. Leger winner Bob's Return with Derby winner and 6-4 on favourite Erhab in third place.

Bob's Return set the pace right from the start of the mile and a quarter (2km) race but could find nothing extra when Ezzoud made his challenge although he still had enough pace to hold off a disappointing Erhab.

Ezzoud, ridden by Walter Swinburn, was priced at 5-1 and Bob's Return at 13-2.

Stoute, trainer of last year's winner Opera House, another five-year-old, said afterwards: "He is a very good horse and the race was set up for him because he likes a good pace."

Martinez spoils Navratilova's farewell, wins Wimbledon

WIMBLEDON, England (R) — Conchita Martinez spoiled Martina Navratilova's bid for a 10th title in her Wimbledon farewell appearance Saturday.

Martinez used brilliant passing shots to beat Navratilova 6-4, 3-6, 6-3 and win her first Grand Slam title. She became the first Spanish woman ever to capture the Wimbledon championship.

The 37-year-old Navratilova had hoped to crown her 22nd and final Wimbledon appearance with one more title. But she came up short against the flashing groundstrokes of the 22-year-old Spaniard, playing in her first Grand Slam final.

"I gave it everything I had," Navratilova said. "I'm very sad. I would have been sad even if I won. It was not the ending I was hoping for. But she played better, for big points anyway."

"I'm happy I got to the final," she said. "I don't think many people picked me to get to the final ... I have nothing to hang my head about ... I lost a match, but

what a way to go. It's been a great run."

Martinez hit a remarkable 28 passing shots — most off the backhand — as she kept the charging Navratilova at bay. Navratilova, charging the net every opportunity, had 22 volley winners.

"Today, she passed me as anyone has," Navratilova said.

The match ended after 1 hour, 59 minutes with Martinez going to the net after a backhand slice approach shot — and watching Navratilova's backhand sail wide. Martinez then flung her racket in the air and let out a shriek.

Navratilova sat in her chair, let out a sigh and smiled at her friends and coaches in the players' box.

When she received the runner-up trophy from the Duchess of Kent, Navratilova smiled, laughed and bowed.

— and then tears came to her eyes as the centre court crowd gave her a long standing ovation.

"How about next year?" a fan shouted at Navratilova.

NBA begins global show

WASHINGTON (AFP) — Now the best of the National Basketball Association (NBA) are ready to see the world.

Houston were crowned champions after beating New York last week in the final game of the league playoffs.

But that conclusion to the eight-month season was only the start of an NBA push for global exposure.

Before the 1994-95 season starts with two games in Japan, NBA stars will play in six nations and face the rest of the world's best players. Sales of NBA merchandise are at record levels in Europe, Australia and Japan and prospects are growing.

"NBA products have become part of the youth culture around the world," said

Paul Zilk, general manager of the NBA's International Group. "It doesn't matter whether people are French or German or Japanese, the appeal and interest in associating themselves with the NBA is universal. And that's quite incredible."

Dream Team II, the U.S. squad for August's World Basketball Championships, will be the focus of NBA pride. Players gather in three weeks at Chicago to begin training together, with exhibitions scheduled against Germany and the U.S. team competing in the Goodwill Games.

The U.S. squad will face 15 other nations in Toronto, which will join Vancouver in 1995 as the first two non-U.S. cities with NBA clubs. Follow

ing in the footsteps of the 1992 Olympic "Dream Team" are such NBA stars as Orlando's Shaquille O'Neal, Indiana's Reggie Miller, Charlotte's Alonzo Mourning and Larry Johnson, Seattle's Shawn Kemp and Dominique Wilkins of the Los Angeles Clippers.

"The only place the NBA can expand now is through the international community," said Phoenix guard Kevin Johnson, a member of Dream Team II. "Hopefully by the year 2000, the NBA will be recognised as the most exciting sport in the world."

More than 800,000 spectators are expected to watch 50,000 players this year, with six stops in Spain and four each in Italy and Germany.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Palestinian police free two Israeli TV guards

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AFP) — Two guards hired by Israeli television were released early Saturday after being held for six hours by Palestinian police on the orders of Yasser Arafat, an Israeli radio official said. Moti Amir said one of whom was armed with a pistol, were accompanying a crew working for the Arabic service of Israeli Television during Mr. Arafat's landmark visit to the Gaza Strip Friday. They handed the weapon to Palestinian police so that they could get close to the podium where Mr. Arafat was giving a speech in Gaza City. "After the speech the two guards wanted to get their weapon back. One of Arafat's personal bodyguards witnessed the scene thought their behaviour was suspicious. He warned the PLO leader, who ordered the arrest of the two guards," Amir said. Israel's representative on the joint Israeli-PLO military liaison committee, General Yom Tov Samia, then intervened telephoning Mr. Arafat to resolve the matter. Under the autonomy accord signed in Cairo on May 4 all Israeli and Palestinian civilians can carry a weapon if they have a permit. "Everybody has the right to self-defence — Israelis and Palestinians," it says. In future the PLO plans to make the Palestinian police responsible for protecting Israeli radio and television journalists working in the autonomous territories of Gaza and Jericho, Mr. Amir said.

Earthquake shakes southern Iran

NICOSIA (R) — An earthquake measuring 5.4 on the Richter scale jolted an area of southern Iran near Bandar Abbas, at the mouth of the Gulf, the official Iranian news agency said on Saturday. It said the quake struck at 5.38 p.m. (1300 GMT) Friday but that it was not yet possible to say what casualties or damage may have been sustained. The Geophysics Institute of Tehran University monitored the tremor. At Bandar Abbas, which guards the Strait of Hormuz, Iran is building an aluminium smelter that is supposed to start up early next year and an oil refinery that is due to be finished in two years. Quakes plague Iran regularly. The worst recorded one, measuring 7.3 on the Richter scale, killed 75,000 people in a densely populated region near the Caspian Coast, far to the north, in 1990. Each full point on the Richter scale represents a ten-fold increase in destructive potential.

UAE man arrested in Manila with gun

MANILA (AFP) — Philippine airport security agents on Saturday arrested a man from the United Arab Emirates (UAE) who was caught with a 12-gauge homemade shotgun in his baggage. Sergeant Rogelio Cid of the airport's security command identified the man as Abdul Muleen Nasser Rashed Humaid Al Lumaini, who claimed immunity from arrest, saying he was a member of UAE's royal family. Authorities, however, noted that the man was not holding a diplomatic passport, and could not invoke immunity. His Filipina companion was also arrested but it was not clear if she would be included in the charges. Sgt. Cid said that customs agents found the shotgun inside the man's luggage. He would be charged with illegal possession of a firearm, Sgt. Cid added.

Thailand makes Israel off limits for workers

BANGKOK (AFP) — Thailand has temporarily stopped sending labourers to Israel, citing the unstable political situation of the country and continuing threat of violence, local dailies reported Saturday. A Labour and Social Welfare Ministry statement to foreign employment agencies here said Israel remained volatile and potentially dangerous while the Israelis and Palestinians negotiated a peace settlement, reports said. Thailand is one of Israel's top suppliers of cheap labour. There are roughly 2,000 Thai labourers working on Israeli farms, according to the Israeli embassy in Bangkok. Israel announced in April it would import 18,000 foreign labourers, mainly from Romania and Thailand, to replace Palestinian workers. The Thai government has been hesitant to fill orders, however, as tensions between unemployed Palestinians and foreign workers have occasionally run high.

U.N. peacekeeper dies in South Lebanon

TYRE, Lebanon (AFP) — A U.N. peacekeeper was killed and four others were injured Friday in a road accident in South Lebanon, U.N. spokesman Timur Goksel said. A jeep carrying the five Nepalese soldiers with the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) overturned on the Deir Hara to Tyre road. The injured soldiers were taken by helicopter to hospital at Naqoura, in the Israeli-occupied "security zone" in South Lebanon. Twenty Nepalese soldiers have died accidentally or in clashes in South Lebanon since 1978. A total of 199 UNIFIL soldiers have died in the same period.

Slovakia denies arms deal with Syria

BRATISLAVA, Slovakia (AP) — The foreign ministry has denied a Lebanese newspaper report that Slovakia had concluded a major arms deal with Syria. "No such agreements have been signed," said ministry spokeswoman Vera Viskupova. "It is totally false." The leftist, pro-Syrian Al Salaf newspaper in Beirut reported Thursday that Slovakia had recently signed an agreement to sell 254 T-72 battle tanks to Syria. It quoted unidentified Western diplomats as saying the agreement was signed during a recent visit by Slovak Foreign Minister Eduard Kukan to Syria. Mr. Kukan visited Syria, Lebanon and Egypt in late June. But he strongly denied signing any such deal. He said his trip to Syria focused on improving diplomatic relations and addressing his country's trade imbalance with the Middle East country. Ms. Viskupova said Friday that Slovakia had not signed any arms sale agreements with Syria since it became independent in the breakup of Czechoslovakia at the beginning of 1993. Slovakia is the eastern third of the former Czechoslovakia, once a major arms supplier to former Warsaw Pact and Third World countries. Many weapons factories were located in Slovakia.

Security forces kill suspect in Upper Egypt

CAIRO (AFP) — Security forces shot and killed a wanted Islamic militant as he tried to avoid arrest in the town of Mallawi in Upper Egypt, sources close to the security services said Saturday. Ragab Abdul Hakim, "a dangerous terrorist who had fled from Assuit province," was shot dead Friday when security forces came to arrest him at his home in Mallawi, 300 kilometres south of Cairo, the sources said. His death raised to 399 the number of people killed since March 1992, when militants began a violent campaign to topple the secular government of President Hosni Mubarak. The victims include 151 militants and 140 policemen. The outlawed Al Jaama Al Islamiyya has carried out fewer attacks in Cairo and the Assuit region of Upper Egypt since the head of its military wing, Talaat Yassin Hammam, was shot dead in Cairo on April 25. Assuit has been a hotbed of militant activity since the unrest started.

Brother kills raped sister in Kuwait

KUWAIT (R) — A man stabbed his 16-year-old sister to death after she told him three men had raped her in Kuwait's desert, a newspaper reported on Saturday. The 21-year-old man told his sister he was taking her to a police station to report the rape, then killed her in a desert area 35 kilometres north east of Kuwait city. Al Watan newspaper said, "He started stabbing her with a knife after she told him the names of the criminals," it added. The victim told her brother she was raped by two Kuwaitis and a Bahraini in the desert, said the paper.

Tehran releases German engineer

BONN (AP) — A German engineer who had been sentenced to death in Iran was released on Friday and returned to Germany in good health, the government said Saturday.

Germany had been negotiating with Iran for months to win freedom for Helmut Szmukus, whom an Iranian court had condemned for allegedly spying for Iraq during the 1980-88 war between Iran and Iraq.

The deputy government spokesman, Norbert Schaefer, said Mr. Szmukus flew to Frankfurt and was in "relatively good health." It said the quake struck at 5.38 p.m. (1300 GMT) Friday but that it was not yet possible to say what casualties or damage may have been sustained. The Geophysics Institute of Tehran University monitored the tremor. At Bandar Abbas, which guards the Strait of Hormuz, Iran is building an aluminium smelter that is supposed to start up early next year and an oil refinery that is due to be finished in two years. Quakes plague Iran regularly. The worst recorded one, measuring 7.3 on the Richter scale, killed 75,000 people in a densely populated region near the Caspian Coast, far to the north, in 1990. Each full point on the Richter scale represents a ten-fold increase in destructive potential.

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